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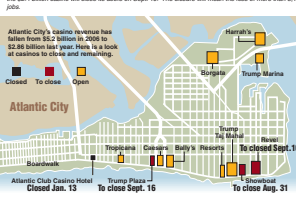
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INSIDE

BUSINESS

Fourth casino to close this year in Atlantic City

Atlantic City's newest casino is shutting its doors just over two years after opening. Revel Casino Hotel will shut down next month after failing to find a buyer in a bankruptcy court. The company said the \$2.4 billion casino will close to close on Sept. 10. The closure will mean the loss of more than 3,100 jobs.



Before summer ends, Revel, Trump Plaza, the Showboat and the Atlantic Club will be shuttered ex-casinos.

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ASIA



Pope Francis wrapped up his first trip to Asia on Monday by challenging Koreans—from the North and the South—to reject the "mindset of suspicion and confrontation."

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FOCUS



A scary problem lurks beyond the frenzied efforts to keep people from spreading Ebola.

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WITH LESS THAN 30 CONGRESSIONAL SESSION DAYS BEFORE 2014 ENDS

Hastings 'cautiously optimistic' on CNMI immigration bill passage

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

With only 12 congressional session days before the Nov. 4 elections and 15 more days before 2014 ends, visiting U.S. House Natural Resources Committee chairman Doc Hastings (R-Wa) acknowledged yesterday that a time-sensitive CNMI immigration bill would have to deal with "scheduling" issue but he's "cautiously optimistic" that the bill will pass. Hastings' committee already passed Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan's (Ind-MP) H.R. 4296 by unanimous consent in May but the chairman said he will bring the bill to the House leadership's attention.

» **Natural Resources Committee chairman says he will bring it up with House leadership**

If HR 4296 fails to pass Congress and is not signed into law, the CNMI will have to start accepting asylum applications in 2015, which officials and businesses said would hurt the still fragile tourism industry and could catch China's ire.

Hastings led an eight-member congressional delegation to Saipan from Sunday afternoon to Monday morning, after visiting Australia and New Zealand plus a brief stopover in American Samoa. The delegation included Sablan.

See **HASTINGS** on **Page 4**

US House Agriculture Committee chair joins ribbon cutting for Garapan public market



By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Visiting U.S. House Agriculture Committee chairman Frank Lucas (R-Ok) joined Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) in

leading yesterday's ribbon cutting for a \$200,000 permanent public market on Saipan that Lucas said is a bridge between food producers and consumers at a time when so many parts of the United States experience a discon-

See **MARKET** on **Page 4**

Visiting U.S. House Agriculture Committee chairman Frank Lucas (R-Ok), second from left, joins Gov. Eloy S. Inos, center, and Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), left, and other local dignitaries in cutting a ceremonial ribbon to mark yesterday's opening of a permanent public market on Saipan that's funded through a \$200,000 congressional earmark.

LONGTIME EDUCATOR AWARDED CLAES NOBEL EDUCATOR DISTINCTION

Trinidad: True teaching goes beyond academics



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Marianas Baptist Academy principal Ramiro Hernandez Trinidad receives the Claes Nobel Educator Distinction award presented by Claes Nobel, the founder and chairman of the National Society of High School Scholars, at the George Washington University Lister Auditorium in Washington, D.C. on Aug. 2, 2014.

By THOMAS MANGLONA II
CORRESPONDENT

Longtime educator and Marianas Baptist Academy Principal Rev. Ramiro Hernandez Trinidad was recently awarded the Claes Nobel Educator Distinction by Claes Nobel, the founder and chairman of the National Society of High School Scholars, at the George Washington University Lister Auditorium in Washington, D.C.

The award, presented by the National Society of High School Scholars, recognized Trinidad for his excellence in teaching and for the encouragement of and dedication to the academic success of students at Marianas Baptist Academy.

Out of 40,000 nominated educators across the nation, Trinidad was chosen to join a group of 20 educators who were bestowed the title of "Educators of Distinction".

According to the NSHSS website, student members have the opportunity to select one high school teacher, counselor, or administrator who has made a positive impact on their lives during their high school career and nominate

See **TRINIDAD** on **Page 4**

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Local

NMHC continues to assist homeless, low-income community members

By JAYSON CAMACHO
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REPORTER

Lately there has been a small increase in low-income families and homeless individuals in the CNMI. As a temporary solution to the problem the Northern Marianas Housing Corp. is helping families and individuals on their housing needs.

According to NMHC deputy corporate director Zenie P. Mafnas, homeless individuals are being served under the Emergency Solutions Grant Program that was developed back in 2011, which offers financial assistance to people who are at the risk of being homeless or are literally homeless.

Mafnas said that financial assistance through the program includes monthly rental payments, a 100 percent assistance, utility deposit assistance, and utility payments assistance for a period of 10 months.

"Throughout their participation in the program, the assigned case manager from the Karidat Social Services, conducts quarterly visits to the households to keep abreast on the type of efforts the households are taking to get back on their feet and to sustain housing," she said.

Due to limited funding from

the ESG, which the average given amount per year is \$65,000, a total of 14 households are being assisted by NMHC, some of which have already ended their participation in the program.

A former homeless woman who wants to remain anonymous told *Saipan Tribune* that she was in the program before, and now has a steady job. While she is still struggling a little, she said she is grateful for the program that has gotten her out of sticky situations.

She said that she did not beg, but sought food from leftovers at parties during the weekends at beach areas. She also said that she drank faucet water a couple of times, she then sought NMHC for help.

Mafnas noted that the program is successful, since the success rate is at 50 percent.

"Half of the assisted households were able to stabilize their housing situations before entering the program. Some of the situations include living in the streets, beach areas, and in sub-standard housing," Mafnas said.

For low-income families, they must meet the low-income threshold, according to Mafnas. NMHC corporate director Jesse Palacios said that the low-income threshold under the Sec-

tion 8 Housing Choice Voucher and Multi-Family housing for a family of four, their income cannot exceed \$48,900.

Section 8 Housing Assistance Program is a federal program that provides housing assistance to very low and low-income families through funding from the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development. Minimum rent set by this program is at \$25 per month if qualified for a waiver exemption.

Palacios said that there are 48 units at Mihaville, near the hospital, Koberville Estates, 20 on Broadway on Tinian, and 30 on Liyo on Rota.

He also said that 46 out of the 48 units are being occupied at Mihaville, 33 of the units in Kobervilled, 19 out of 20 occupied on Tinian, and nine out of 30 on Rota.

Low Income Housing Tax Credits is also one of the programs that NMHC provides in assisting with the development of low-income rental housing by providing qualified owners with credit to offset their federal tax obligations, which means is qualified for developers or owners of buildings and projects that meet certain low income occupancy and rent restrictions.

Sandy Beach Homes is part

of the LIHTC that was mostly funded by a cash grant from U.S Department of Treasury, and is required to comply with the income limits as set forth by Housing and Urban Development.

"No high-income families are allowed to occupy any of the

units [Sandy Beach Homes]. NMHC has reviewed their tenants and all files have been found to be in compliance to IRS and Treasury regulations and requirements," he said.

Mafnas said that NMHC has focused, since 2013 on assist-

ing households who are eligible under the literally homeless category, who have zero income.

"We will continue assisting those of low-income, very low income, or no income if NMHC qualifies them for the programs," Palacios said.



ISLAND-STYLE RECEPTION

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Gov. Eloy S. Inos takes a moment to pose with CNMI Delegate Gregorio "Kilili" C. Sablan, and U.S. Rep. Doc Hastings (R-WA) after a gathering hosted by Inos and Sablan welcoming Hastings and six other visiting members of Congress to Saipan.

New law lowers shooting range insurance from \$5M to \$1M

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos signed into law a bill that reduces the shooting range liability insurance from the original \$5 million approved 10 months ago to \$1 million.

Rep. Christopher Leon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), author of the bill, said with the small size of the local insurance market, the maximum liability insurance available for shooting galleries and shooting ranges in the CNMI is only \$1 million.

"The current law imposes a requirement that is impossible to meet. The insurance requirement needs to be adjusted in order to require an amount

of insurance that is available to the Commonwealth," Leon Guerrero said.

His House Bill 18-153, Senate Draft 1 is now Public Law 18-61.

Under the law, "shooting range" means a major development, with a minimum aggregate capital investment of \$250,000 in the CNMI, where amenities shall include at a minimum, a restaurant, retail shop, office spaces, recreational facilities, target and range facilities for rifle and hand gun competition and other requirements consistent with hosting major international shooting competitions.

The new law also says a patron and guest at a shooting range may use a rifle, shotgun, archery or target range equip-

ment, and any caliber of ammunition approved for competitive use as specifically authorized by regulation by the Department of Public Safety.

The use of any firearm, weapon, ammunition, archery, and target range equipment off the shooting range premises is prohibited, except for purposes that DPS ordered for safety purposes.

No person, corporation, business or entity may operate or engage in the business of shooting gallery or shooting range unless they have received a shooting gallery or shooting range license from the Department of Public Safety, and a general business license from the Department of Finance.

Municipal council's scenic byways proposal sent to MVA

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Led by Ramon B. Camacho, chairman of Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council, a plan is underway to reignite the community driven scenic byways adopt-a-place project with the goal of making thoroughfares safe, clean, and beautiful.

According to the project proposal, which was sent to the Marianas Visitors Authority, the program's main goal is to gather the community together and "build a sense of ownership" among volunteers.

The proposal asks for financial assistance from MVA to support implementation and successful completion of the project.

According to the letter of proposal, the project is single-phased over a year's period and

all expenditure activities will be implemented over fiscal year 2014 and 2015.

For this phase, the project-funding requirement is estimated at \$16,656.00.

Of the estimated funding, transportation costs are estimated at \$5,005, gear and supplies at \$7,920, equipment at \$4,280, and signage at \$500.

According to a source at the municipal council office, MVA to date has not given any updates on the submitted letter and proposal—sent on July 31—as its board of directors must first discuss it in session.

The MVA is scheduled to have a board meeting today at 9am.

As of July 22 2014, the project has United Airlines as a sponsor, which has volunteered their help in cleaning a selected area in San Jose. Bank of Guam's sponsorship is listed as pending,

but the bank has shown interest.

According to proposal, the council wishes—through this project—to empower the community through self-help.

The municipal council believes that by doing so a capacity at the local level will develop to respond in positive ways to the environment through enhancing and preserving the island's physical and cultural traits.

"If we continue to rely on government, the community tends to sit back," Camacho said. "But if you empower the community, then we can all work together and reduce unacceptable eyesores or criminal activities on island."

The municipal council plans on working with other agencies as well like the Department of Public Safety and Department of Public Highway to reignite the project, which began in 2012.

Thank you!



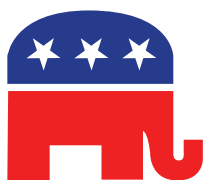
The CNMI Republican Party wishes to thank the many supporters from Rota, Tinian, Saipan, the Northern Islands, Guam and the US mainland who attended the August 17th GOP Mid-Term Rally. Your continued support is crucial towards providing real Solutions Driven Leadership for the CNMI in the years ahead.

Eloy S. Inos and Ralph DLG. Torres, along with the entire Republican Party slate value your support, commitment, and presence.

We look forward to seeing you all again at our
GOP Grand Finale on October 26, 2014.

Vote Republican!

Thank you, Si Yu'us Ma'ase, and Olomwaay!



"Solutions Driven Leadership"

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AS LAWYER DID NOT FILE NOTICE OF APPEAL ON FRIDAY'S DEADLINE**Camacho's disbarment order against Quichocho now in full effect**

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

As there are no issues on appeal, the disbarment order that Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho issued against attorney Ramon K. Quichocho Jr. last July, is now in full effect.

Saipan Tribune learned yesterday that Quichocho did not file a notice of appeal on or before the deadline, which was last Friday, Aug. 15.

Under the CNMI Supreme Court Appellate Rule 4, notice of appeal in a civil case must be filed within 30 days. Since

Camacho issued the disbarment order on July 15, 2014, the 30-day deadline was Friday, Aug. 15.

Camacho ordered the disbarment of Quichocho from the practice of law before the CNMI courts for professional misconduct in representing his then-client businesswoman Jung Ja Kim.

In a 50-page decision, Camacho said no lesser sanction would match the severity of Quichocho's misconduct.

In this case, Camacho pointed out, Quichocho, by exploiting Ms. Kim on multiple levels, undermined not only her trust in him, but the public's trust in the legal profession and the le-

gal system.

Such conduct, Camacho said, is not tolerated from an attorney practicing before the courts of the CNMI.

Quichocho was ordered to pay all costs and fees as set forth in the Commonwealth Disciplinary Rules and Procedures.

Should the respondent apply for readmission to the CNMI Bar, Camacho said, he must provide proof of restitution to Kim as a condition of readmission.

Attorney Mark A. Scoggins was the court's appointed disciplinary counsel.

The CNMI Bar Association Disciplinary Committee forwarded Kim's case to the court.

The case arises out of conduct and actions occurring over the course of a two-year attorney-client relationship between Quichocho and Kim and several companies she controlled.

Between March 2007 and March 2009 Quichocho allegedly engaged in multiple improper and unfair business transactions with Kim; had inappropriate and nonconsensual sexual relations with her; violated his duty of loyalty by consistently ignoring conflicts of interest; and improperly shared management and control of his law office with his wife, a non-attorney.

Last May 28, Camacho suspended Quichocho's license to

practice law for three years for using a legal tool to harass a former client to obtain payment.

Last month, Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman ordered a public reprimand against Quichocho for professional misconduct in connection with another Bar complaint filed by a couple.

Last March 28, a federal jury reached a unanimous verdict, holding Quichocho and his wife and law firm, liable to pay \$2.4 million in damages to Kim, who filed a racketeering lawsuit against them.

The jury, however, found Kim liable to pay Quichocho and his law firm \$48,221.67 in legal fees.

Inos, govt ask court to OK \$6.5M settlement deal with Hawaii law firm

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

The CNMI government, through the Office of the Attorney General, has requested the federal court to approve the \$6.5-million settlement agreement with Betty Johnson's Hawaii-based counsel Bronster Hoshibata law firm.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos, Finance Secretary Larrisa Larson, CNMI government and Finance, through assistant attorney general Teresita J. Sablan, informed the U.S. District Court for the NMI on Friday that they join Bronster Hoshibata's motion for approval of the attorney's fee deal.

Sablan said the Commonwealth maintains its position that Bronster Hoshibata law firm's fees should be limited to the lodestar amount without a multiplier.

However, Sablan said, the Commonwealth also recognizes that, if left to decide the matter, U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood could award an amount much greater than the lodestar.

Sablan said the agreed upon settlement takes into account the parties' positions on the fee matter and is a fair compromise of attorney fees for Bronster Hoshibata.

The Inos administration has agreed to settle Bronster Hoshibata's petition for attorney's fees and costs for payment of \$6.5 million (to be paid over three years).

Bronster Hoshibata's original demand was for \$17.5 million to be paid through installment.

The administration also settled for \$185,000 and \$800,000 the petitions for attorney's fees and costs filed by Johnson's other counsels Stephen C. Woodruff and Bruce Jorgensen, respectively.

The court had already approved Woodruff's settlement deal. Jorgensen's and Bronster Hoshibata's settlements are still subject to court's approval.

The court placed under advisement Johnson's San Rafael, California-based counsel Timothy Lord's application for payment of fees. His initial demand was either \$3.6 million or \$5.9 million. The CNMI opposed granting fees to Lord.

PH-bound LBC boxes delayed over port congestion in Manila

Philippine-bound LBC boxes from Saipan are taking much longer to reach their destinations because of ongoing port congestion in Manila.

LBC Saipan manager Valentino Gatchalian, however, said yesterday that those LBC boxes that left Saipan in early and late July are expected to be delivered to their intended recipients this week.

Gatchalian said the two batches arrived at the same time, and that they already cleared Philippine Customs last week.

He said because of port congestion in Manila, the ports in Hong Kong and Taiwan where cargo from Saipan go first, had temporarily refused accepting cargo. This was the cause of the delay which, he said, is beyond LBC's control.

The Philippine government assured the public on Aug. 7

that the congestion at major ports in Metro Manila would ease by Saturday, August 16.

Samson Fernandez, one of those who sent an LBC box in early July, said he was hoping that the cargo delivery company would notify customers about the delay.

"Had I not called, I, and many other customers, won't even know what happened to the LBC boxes. There is not even a date when they expect the boxes to be delivered to recipients in the Philippines. Included in the box I sent were medicines for my parents," Fernandez told Saipan Tribune yesterday.

Fernandez said he's also disappointed that the LBC representative he inquired with, whom he described as a female, couldn't explain what happened to the LBC boxes in a proper manner. *(Haidee V. Eugenio)*

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IT&E

All eyes on Senate whether it allows Yumul to sit at Thursday's session

All eyes would be on the Senate whether it allows independent lieutenant governor candidate Ray Yumul to sit and participate in their regular session on Thursday, despite what senators acknowledged as Yumul's violation of the constitution by not resigning as a senator upon the August 13 certification of his candidacy

in the Nov. 4 general elections.

Yumul also pre-filed a resolution commending an individual for a faithful service to the community on Aug. 15, the supposed "effective date" of his "personal leave" as per his Aug. 12 memo.

Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) said as of yesterday, they have not received

a resignation letter from Yumul.

Sen. Pete Reyes (Ind-Saipan) reiterated his call yesterday for Yumul to "do the right thing."

Yumul's standing at the Senate has been drawing reaction from the public, since this newspaper carried the story on Friday. Some community members said the Senate itself should

do the right thing.

The Senate Rules and Procedures Committee, which Senate vice president Victor Hocog (R-Rota) heads, has yet to come up with a written recommendation to the full body as to Yumul's standing at the Senate.

"The Constitution takes precedence over politics," Hocog said.

Article 8 Section 5 of the NMI Constitution reads, "Resignation

from Public Office. An elected public official shall resign from office upon certification to be a candidate for another public office, if the term of the office sought begins before the end of the term of the office held."

An earlier plan to hold a special session today has been scrapped. The Senate will proceed with its regular session scheduled for Thursday at 2pm.

Yumul, who was elected senator in 2012, has been a certified independent candidate for lieutenant governor since Wednesday. He is running with former House speaker Heinz S. Hofschneider.

Rudy Santos, 77, said Yumul seems to want to hold on to his Senate seat should he lose the election. Santos said it seems Yumul is not confident about winning. **(Haidee V. Eugenio)**

MARKET

From Page 1

nect between the two.

"What you are doing here is the kind of thing that we struggle to do all across the entire United States," Lucas said, referring to a "disconnect between the people who raise the food—the farmers, the fishermen, the folks who make the food available to us—and the American consumer."

The newly opened Garapan public market is funded through a \$200,000 congressional earmark that Sablan obtained during his first year in Congress.

"This is part of what you do for us here in the Marianas," Inos said as he invited visiting members of the U.S. House of Representatives to see for themselves the interior of the public market shortly before the cutting of the ceremonial ribbon to

officially open the facility.

U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources chairman Doc Hastings (R-Wa), who led an eight-member congressional delegation that visited Saipan on Sunday and Monday, later echoed Lucas' description about a public market that provides an opportunity to connect producers with consumers.

For several years, the original concrete structure that is now a permanent public market was an "eyesore," as Department of Lands and Natural Resources Secretary Arnold Palacios described it. Palacios, now on administrative leave, said this public market "belongs to the public and rightly so."

Inos said the public market will be expanded to include fresh products from fishermen, in addition to the fresh fruits and vegetables now being sold at the facility.

Saipan Farmers Cooperative

president and former senator Frica Pangelinan said they look forward to being the model on how to develop island resources with government and community support.

Fresh from passing a comprehensive farm bill, Lucas said connecting producers and consumers "is a big part of what projects like this public market is all about," with farmers and fishermen providing consumers with some of the most nutritious food available.

He said part of the challenges of passing a farm bill is also the members of Congress without regard to political party, whom he said sometimes "perhaps were not as focused on these issues as they should have been, but your member, Congressman Sablan, was very supportive from the very first step in the farm bill."

"He showed a willingness to want to know and work on is-

sues that are not only important to the Commonwealth but also important in passing the overall farm bill, important to meeting the needs of everyone in this great country," Lucas added.

Lucas congratulated the CNMI community and its leadership for bringing about a public market.

Hospitality, CNMI's beauty

The House Agriculture Committee chairman also spoke about the "warm hospitality" that the CNMI has shown to the congressional delegation.

"Thank you for giving us a good person to visit with, thank you for moving in the right direction of that farmer/fisherman-consumer connection. This is a wonderful day," he added.

Hastings, who also visited Saipan for the first time, said Saipan is a "wonderful part of the world; there's no question

about that."

"And this part of the world has been very friendly to the United States for years so I think it's important for members of Congress when they can, to travel to other parts other than the 50 states, and that's what this delegation did," Hastings said.

The eight-member Hastings delegation also went to Australia and New Zealand for talks on free trade, energy development and realignment of U.S. forces in the Western Pacific. The congressional delegation also briefly stopped in American Samoa.

Hastings said the Sunday night welcome dinner reception—co-hosted by the governor and Sablan—was "very good" and showed the islands' hospitality.

U.S. House Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans and Insular Affairs Subcommittee chairman John

Fleming (R-La), for his part, said he first visited Saipan some 35 years ago when he was stationed in Guam as a U.S. Navy doctor.

"I'm glad to see that there's even more people and more things to do. It's a beautiful island and we should really take advantage of that," he said.

Also at the opening of the Garapan public market were chairman Jack Kingston, the third-ranking Republican on the House Appropriations Committee and Chair of its Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies; Doug Lamborn, who chairs the Energy and Mineral Resources Subcommittee; Richard Hudson, Chairman of the Transportation Security Subcommittee; and Rob Woodall, Chairman of Rules Subcommittee on Legislative and Budget Process.

HASTINGS

From Page 1

"The next thing we have to do now is scheduling problem, trying to get the bill scheduled so we can have it on the floor. Again, that's kind of outside of my realm. That's a leadership issue, not committee chairman issue but we will communicate with the leadership that this is very, very important to the Northern Marianas and hopefully we can get it done," Hastings said in an interview at the opening of a permanent Garapan public market yesterday morning, before leaving Saipan. The public market is funded by a \$200,000 congressional earmark that Sablan obtained.

HR 4296 also extends be-

yond 2014 the E2-C investor visa program, the CNMI and Guam's exemption from the national H visa cap and the CW foreign worker program that was already extended administratively.

Hastings acknowledged the importance of a "reliable workforce" for the CNMI, and he said this was the reason why the bill passed his Natural Resources Committee with broad bipartisan support.

"We're cautiously optimistic that we can pass that bill so you can have a reliable workforce," Hastings added.

On Sunday night, Hastings, U.S. House Agriculture Committee chairman Frank Lucas (R-Ok) and Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans and Insular Affairs Subcommittee chairman John

Fleming (R-La) and the rest of the congressional delegation met with key CNMI business leaders to directly hear their concerns about immigration policies covered in HR 4296. That happened during a welcome dinner reception that Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Sablan co-hosted.

Hastings said he's very much aware of the issues involved even before he got to Saipan because his committee has jurisdiction over the bill, and the CNMI's delegate, Sablan, talks to him on a regular basis.

"But it is always good to have local people express to you the importance (of the bill). When we hear from people on the ground, that's a very important step. But I was aware of the issue and our Committee has already acted on that bill so it's

not like we didn't know about it," he said.

Hastings added that the bill's provision extending the CNMI's exemption from accepting asylum applications is also "very important to the people here so that will very likely stay in the bill."

When asked whether there's option to protect the CNMI if and when the bill fails to pass Congress, Hastings had this to say: Let's go on the assumption, since the bill came out of Committee on a bipartisan basis, that it will continue through the House."

"I don't want to speculate. Afterwards, we have to deal with that at that point. I am cautiously optimistic because it's so important to this area and our committee has already acted again on a bipartisan basis so

I would rather approach it that way," he added.

Fleming, for his part, said he supports a guest worker program but he also wants to ensure there's border security.

"It depends on what the final form of the bill is so I really can't commit to whether I will support it just yet," he said.

Sablan, as author of HR 4296, said he's working hard to get floor time for the bill.

"We are aware of the limited time and we will continue to work hard to get it floor time," he said.

Last year, even with limited session days, a bill that would delay anew a 50-cent minimum wage increase in the CNMI for 2013 was able to pass the U.S. House of Representatives. Sablan said the same effort would

be exerted for HR 4296.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos also asked U.S. House Speaker John Boehner in a July letter to prioritize and pass HR 4296.

Besides Hastings, Fleming, Lucas and Sablan, the four other members of the congressional delegation were Chairman Jack Kingston, the third-ranking Republican on the House Appropriations Committee and Chair of its Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies; Doug Lamborn, who chairs the Energy and Mineral Resources Subcommittee; Richard Hudson, Chairman of the Transportation Security Subcommittee; and Rob Woodall, Chairman of Rules Subcommittee on Legislative and Budget Process.

TRINIDAD

From Page 1

them for the distinction.

MBA 2014 alumnus Kanata Omori nominated Trinidad. Omori said that he nominated Trinidad for being "not only an exceptional principal but also an outstanding individual."

He added, "He has been my principal for six years and has never failed to teach me numerous life lessons every year."

Omori described Trinidad as a caring, passionate, determined, and motivated person.

"Those are the characteristics that make an educator, and those are the characteristics, which Mr. Ramiro Trinidad possesses," he said.

"Though I have received many awards before, this Educator Distinction is an opportunity to share to my colleagues in this profes-

sion that teaching does not end in a classroom," he told the *Saipan Tribune*. "True teaching goes beyond academics."

Trinidad is a well-known educator on island with years of teaching in various capacities under his belt.

He earned his Masters of Education in Educational Administration from the University of Hawaii at Manoa as well as a Bachelor of Science in Industrial and Management Engineering and Pastoral Theology and Christian Education degree.

Prior to his career at the sole Baptist Academy on island, Trinidad worked as a University Professor in the College of Engineering and University Professor in Merchant Marine. He served as vice-principal of MBA from 1987 to 2004 and has now been the principal of MBA for 10 years.

He said that despite offers

for a teaching position at prestigious universities like Johns Hopkins University, Saipan became his lifeblood. He explained that the island is where God called him to serve for over the past two decades of his life.

As the top administrator at MBA, he has also taught various subjects ranging from high school science and math to bible class. Trinidad has also proven to be a passionate educator both in and outside of the classroom.

Under the guidance of Trinidad, several students from MBA have placed in the top percentage of winners of local Mathcounts competitions in the past decade and have gone off to represent the islands on a national level.

Trinidad can also be seen on the basketball and volleyball court after school supporting the school's athletic teams as a coach.

His daughter and MBA

alumna, Gospel Trinidad, said, "I feel very proud that my Dad was distinguished as an educator who worked very hard in his field for many years."

Fellow MBA 2009 graduate Dencio V. Manglona recounted his time as a student.

"I first met Mr. Trinidad when I was just in middle school for the then-popular Mathcounts competition. He revealed to be the basic principles that lead to a successful life: we started our day with a prayer, studied math, and then worked together to tackle problems we could not solve alone. My encounter with him characterized his devotion to faith and his passion for his students, which I have seen ever since that day many years ago." He added, "I'm glad to hear that someone else has recognized all his work, after all his years of service to his community."

A more recent graduate, Alina

Ishikawa, said, "no words can describe how thankful I am for everything Pastor Trinidad has done for me in terms of education. I would like to thank him so much for his guidance, time and effort he put into helping me become who I am today."

Various graduates of the school have furthered their education at prestigious academic institutions like Harvard, Princeton, Vanderbilt University, University of Michigan, University of Virginia, and University of California, Berkeley.

Trinidad told the *Saipan Tribune* that he considers teaching his highest calling.

"It's my highest calling to minister to students of different walks of life to be able to impart Christian education based on the Word of God," he said.

He added that his ultimate goal as an educator is to reach students with the gospel mes-

sage of Christ unto salvation.

"I aim to prepare them spiritually and academically to a higher learning as critical thinkers and as thankful citizens of our community."

Trinidad hopes to see more academic resources available for students in the CNMI.

He said, "Education in CNMI is progressive. In fact, most of our graduates both private and public are very competitive anywhere in the world. Though, we are a minute island in the Pacific, our students are giants in the mainland. We need to have more resources and use every available resource to our advantage in terms of educating ourselves."

At the end of the school day, he said, "Life's lessons is when you become a part of your student's life and dreams to become a productive and grateful individual."

Associate justice Manglona, judges Naraja, Govendo seek retention

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Associate Justice John A. Manglona, Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja, and Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo have all submitted their intention to seek retention election this November.

Commonwealth Election Commission executive director Robert A. Guerrero confirmed with the *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that Manglona, will be placed on the ballot as candidate for retention as associate justice of the CNMI Supreme Court.

Guerrero said Naraja and Govendo will also be placed on the ballot for the retention as presiding judge and associate judge respectively of the Superior Court.

Guerrero said Manglona, Naraja and Govendo had submitted letters of their intent to seek retention, although under the CNMI Constitution, justices and judges who want to be retained to the bench are not re-

quired to do so (submission).

Under a constitutional amendment, the question of whether justices or judges will be retained shall be put to a vote at a general election immediately before the end of that justice's or judge's initial term of office.

In his letter to Guerrero, Associate Justice Manglona said given another opportunity to serve, he will continue with his mission to give the people equal access to justice and fair application of the rule of law.

"I have been serving the judiciary and the people of the Northern Mariana Islands for the past 16 years with a deep dedication to providing everyone with an impartial and effective administration of justice," Manglona said.

Naraja is seeking a third term as presiding judge.

Naraja said it is his sincerest desire to continue to develop the interests of justice through the very unique role of the Judiciary.

"I have endeavored and will continue to endeavor to serve the Commonwealth in a manner that upholds the integrity and the dignity of the court, while continuing to improve the objectives and standards of the Judiciary toward court excellence," he said.

With over 10 years of experience, Naraja said he will continually strive to maintain fairness, humility, and sensitivity in the administration of justice.

"These are qualities that are extremely and inherently important to the administration of justice. It is my hope that, with the people's consideration, I may ultimately continue in my honorable position and serve the Commonwealth for another term," Naraja said.

In his three-sentence letter to Guerrero, Govendo advised the Board of Elections of his intent to be placed on the ballot. He did not mention about his service to the Judiciary.

Then-governor Pedro P. Tenorio appointed in April

2000 then Superior Court associate judge Manglona as associate justice. He was sworn in in June 2000 in the three-seat CNMI Supreme Court.

Then-governor Pedro P. Tenorio appointed Naraja in November 2001 as associate judge.

Two years later, then-governor Juan N. Babauta appointed Naraja as presiding judge.

Babauta appointed Govendo as associate judge in 2003.

In November 2007, voters overwhelmingly voted for the retention of Manglona, Naraja, and Govendo.

With their retention in 2007, Manglona's term that expired in 2008 was extended for eight more years, while judges Naraja and Govendo, whose terms expired in 2009, received additional six years.

CUC board wants policy for changes on deceased accounts

By **JAYSON CAMACHO**
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. board wants CUC management to draft a policy regarding a name change for accounts of deceased names for a simpler and smoother operation for new customers using previous accounts of past users.

CUC board member Joe Torres asked CUC executive director Alan Fletcher during last week's board meeting if there was any draft policy for deceased names. CUC legal counsel James Sirok said that they had no policy yet.

CUC board chair Dave Sablan Jr. said that supporting documents and a death certificate is required by CUC customers for change of names, and said that Torres suggested that the process should be a more simple process because of the situation of changing of name being complicated now.

"A death certificate and a letter of the applicant should state that they will be responsible for the billings for meter, should be

enough to transfer the name, but not the past dues," Sablan said.

Torres said that the simpler the policy, the better the changing of names will run through, so there won't be any confusion.

Sablan said that CUC should prioritize the transition of new customers, so that they could clean out the records of CUC's accounts of deceased individuals that are still listed as active.

"CUC needs to let the new customers using previous accounts and make the change accordingly," he said.

Fletcher said that they have tried to collect before the name changes occurred, but there were times when property ownerships changed from one family to another causing difficulty.

"It is complicated on the legal side to go through all that on whose responsibility is it? Who's going to pay the outstanding raters and bill?" he said.

Torres said that if they keep doing what CUC is doing now, it will pile up and then CUC will have to put a stop on the collection of the payments.

After the board meeting, Fletcher told *Saipan Tribune* that they will follow through with the policy to make sure that a smoother operation.

"We do have some legal processing that we have to meet, as with all our policies, and that's when we decide," Fletcher said.

Sablan said that customers could turn the issue around and say that they are not the ones responsible for the previous deceased accounts, and that the policy should be CUC's main priority at the moment.

'Hiyuk' consumption on Tinian prohibited

The Tinian Department of Lands and Natural Resources is advising the general public to avoid any consumption of the Blue Banded Surgeon Fish (Hiyuk). The department said there have been reports of dead hiyuk along the shoreline of Masalok Beach to Lamlam Beach.

According to resident department head Richard DLC Farrell, biologists will be arriving to conduct an investigation on the incident. He advised that the general public refrain from consuming hiyuk until further notice.

For more information, call 433-1408/1400. **(PR)**



UNITED STATES
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

NOTICE OF COUNCIL MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 12, the CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities is hereby gives notice that it will hold its 2nd Quarter General Membership Meeting on August 29, 2014, from 12:00pm – 2:00pm at the Napu Room, Pacific Islands Club.

AGENDA

I.

II.

III.

IV.

V.

VI.

VII.

VIII.

XI.

XII.

XIII.

XIV.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

ADOPTION OF MINUTES – May 13, 2014

ACTION ITEMS

REPORT

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MISCELLANEOUS

NEXT MEETING

ADJOURNMENT

a.

b.

c.

d.

e.

f.

a.

b.

c.

d.

a.

Ratification/Approval of CRSP MOA between CDD and Ayuda Network, Inc.

Approval of the Amendment to FY 2014 Budget of Commonwealth Respite Services Program (CRSP)

Approval of the CNMI Assistive Technology Device Demonstration Policy and Procedures

Approval of the CNMI Assistive Technology Device Loan Policy and Procedures

District Court Re-Payment

Office Renovation

Chairman

Executive Director

Fiscal Committee Chairperson

State Plan Committee Chairperson

Autism Awareness Month

Emergency & Disaster Preparedness Training

Voices of the CNMI

National Employment Awareness Month Activities

Note: Pursuant to P.L. 8-41, Section 13(a) 7, the Council may vote to meet in Executive Session. In accordance to the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend this meeting and require special accommodations are requested to call the Council 5 days in advance at 664-7000. The Public is welcome to submit written or 3 minutes oral comments regarding the agenda above.

/s/ Thomas J. Camacho
Chairman

This ad was paid for by funds from the DD Basic Grant Part A (Administrative)

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

Department of Community and Cultural Affairs

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

The Department of Community and Cultural Affairs (DC&CA) Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is hereby announcing its intention to submit its Model State Plan for Fiscal Year 2015. In addition to the fourteen (14) assurances which the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands are mandated to comply with, and the Program Integrity Assessment in order to receive the grant, we are also required to report on the progress, accomplishments, and problems that we have encountered within the last couple of years of the program. The LIHEAP Program generally provides cooling/utility-power, mini-weatherization and crisis assistance to eligible low-income households.

We are notifying affected individuals, specifically those who are qualified low-income, elderly, and/or disabled, other interested individuals, and the general public who may be interested in participating in the development of this plan to please contact Mr. George S. Fitial, LIHEAP Supervisor and Mrs. Gregoria O. Sablan or Mr. Frank Iglecias, the LIHEAP Staff at the DCCA LIHEAP's Office at telephone numbers 664-2568 or 664-2569. For more information and inquiry, please call the said telephone numbers, or visit our Office located at Capitol Hill House#1341.

Community meetings will be conducted on Rota, Tinian and Saipan as scheduled below. Any and all interested individuals are encouraged to attend this important meeting.

NUTISIAN PUPBLIKU

I Dipattamentun Asuntun Kumunidá yan Kuttura (DC&CA), Prugráman Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) ginin esti ha anununsia i intension-ña na para u rinueba iyun-ñiha Abbreviated State Plan para i Fiscal Year 2013. Kumu ma'òmenta hálum i katotsi (14) gi Commonwealth gi Sangkattan na Islas Marianas siha put para u ma'otdin para i kinimpli ni, yan i Prugráman Integrity Assessment anai siha para u marisibi i saláppi', ya manmadimánda ham lokkui' para u maripot todú i adilántu, kinemplidu yan problema siha ni ma'ekspirensia gi halum i manma'pus na sákkán i prugráma. I LIHEAP na prugráma henerát-mienti ha pribeniya cooling/utility-power, mini-weatherization yan predikamentun asistensia para atyu siha i mangkuálifikáo na familia ni manakpapa' suetdun-ñiha.

En nutisia atyu siha na petsona i maninafepekta ispesiátmenti para atyu i mangkuálifikáo na man ámkú', yan/maninutit, yan pumalu siha na indibiduát ni manintirisáo, yan i pupbliku henerát kumu manintirisáo manpattisipáo gi manmplánun esti na inadilánta para u ma'ágang si Siñot George S. Fitial, LIHEAP Supervisor, yan Siñora Gregoria O. Sablan, Siñot Frank Iglecias, LIHEAP Staff, gi DCCA ufisina gi esti siha na numirun tilifon 664-2568 pat 664-2569.

Para u guaha siha inekkunguk publiku para u fan makundukta giya Luta, Tinian yan Saipan. Todú etyu siha man intirisáo na petsona manmasosohyu' para u ma'atiende esti siha na inekkunguk.

ARONGORONGOL TOULAP

Bwulasiyol Lemelemil Sóóbwe me Kko (Community me Cultural Affairs - DC&CA), Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) sángi milleel nge ekki arongaar toulap igha re bwe isiisilong yaar State Plan reel ráágh ye 2015. E pwál aschuuschu ngáli milikkewe seigh me faawu (14) ikka re akkuléew ngáli Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands rel igha e bwe mmwelil bweibwogh selaapi, me kkemalul progróoma, nge e bwal allégh ngáli ghamam bwe ay bwe fféer kkapasal rel meeta kka e ghatch, weires ikka e ghal yoor fitoowuló rágh mwiiir igha bweletá progróoma yeel. Mille LIHEAP nge e ayoorá alillis rel apatapat/dengkki, mini weatherization and alillisil rel aweires ngáliir schóo kka e ghi sóssól abwóssuur.

Ay kke arongaar schoo kka re toolong llo alillis yeel, ikka e ghi sóssól abwóssuur, tuufey/ikka rese bwáng, me ikka re mwuschál fengel me toulap ikka re tipáli bwe re bwe toolong llo progróoma yeel, bwe reb we ffaingiiir Sóumwár George S. Fitial, LIHEAP Supervisor, me Ilimwár Gregoria O. Sablan me/ngáre Sóumwár Frank Iglecias, LIHEAP Staff reel numurool tilifoon kka 664-2569 ngare 664-2568 me ngáre tooto llól Bwulasiyo iye elo Capitol Hill house #1341.

E bwe yoor arongorong ngáliir toulap wóol Lauta, Tchúliyól me Seipél. Aramas ye e tipáli nge re kke tingór ngáliir bwe re bwe tootto llól yéelágh kkal.

/s/ **Laura T. Ogomoro**
Secretary, DCCA

Date: 08/14/14

Venue	Scheduled Dates	Time
Tinian-Tinian Gymnasium	August 18, 2014	6:00 pm
Saipan- Kagman Comm. Ctr.	August 20, 2014	6:00 pm
Rota - Rota Roundhouse	August 25, 2014	6:00 pm

IN LAWSUIT BY SAIPAN MAYOR STAFF WHO FELL FROM BUCKET TRUCK

OAG: Superior Court lacks jurisdiction on Fleming's claim vs CNMI

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Office of the Attorney General has moved for the dismissal of the claim against the CNMI government in a lawsuit filed by a staff of the Saipan Mayor's Office who filed a lawsuit over the injuries he suffered when a bucket truck's arm suddenly broke while he was cutting branches of trees, making him fall several feet to a rooftop of a building.

Assistant attorney general David Lochabay, as counsel for the CNMI government, asserted that as Lawrence M. Fleming's complaint has no al-

legations against the CNMI, it fails to state a claim and therefore must be dismissed.

Lochabay said the Superior Court lacks jurisdiction over the CNMI because no claim against the government was presented to the Attorney General at least 90 days prior to filing suit.

Fleming, through counsel Joseph E. Horey, is suing the Office of the Mayor of Saipan, CNMI government, and the administrator of the estate of former Saipan Mayor Donald G. Flores, for negligence and worker's compensation.

Fleming asked the court to hold the defendants liable to pay him damages for pain,

suffering, and emotional distress. He also demanded payment for court costs and attorney's fees.

Horey stated in the complaint that in July 2012, Fleming's work of duties as an employee of the Mayor's Office included the cutting and trimming of trees along the roadside and elsewhere on Saipan.

Horey said that on July 19, 2012, Fleming was in the bucket truck, cutting branches of trees above the roof of a government house on Capital Hill.

The lawyer said the mechanical arm suddenly collapsed, and the bucket, with Fleming in it, fell directly downward more than 20 feet

and crashed on the concrete roof of the house.

Fleming suffered a burst compression fracture of his lumbar vertebra that required surgery. He is likely to require further medical treatment in the future.

On April 16, 2014, Horey said plaintiff presented a claim for his damages to the Attorney General, but the AG made no disposition of the claim within 90 days after it was presented, and is therefore deemed to have denied the claim.

Horey said the Mayor's Office breached its duties to Fleming by failing to adequately maintain the truck and failing to give plaintiff or

other users adequate instructions in its proper use.

The lawyer said Mayor's Office did not secure payment of statutory worker's compensation benefits as required by the Commonwealth Worker's Compensation law.

In the government's motion to dismiss filed last week, Lochabay said as the claim, and therefore the complaint, only contains allegations against the Office of the Mayor and its employees, it is clearly insufficient to state a claim against the CNMI.

Citing previous court rulings, Lochabay said the requirement that a claim against the CNMI be first presented to

the Attorney General is jurisdictional.

Lochabay said Fleming has sued three separate named defendants in this action.

Lochabay said in its complaint, Fleming then arbitrarily refers to all defendants "collectively, as defendant."

"This practice results in each individual defendant not being properly apprised of exactly what each individual defendant has done to harm plaintiff," he said.

This, Lochabay added, is an obvious violation of Fleming's duty to put each defendant on notice of its alleged culpability in the circumstances leading to his alleged injuries.

NMI July 2014 visitor arrivals dip 5 pct

July 2014 visitor arrivals to the Northern Mariana Islands dipped five percent compared to July 2013. According to the Marianas Visitors Authority, arrivals to the islands of Saipan, Tinian and Rota registered 37,253 visitors in July 2014, compared to 39,287 visitors received in July 2013.

Arrivals from Russia grew by 59 percent to 1,552 visitors in July making Russia the NMI's fastest growing source market during the month. Despite the Ukraine crisis and serious concerns regarding the nation's faltering economy, July is peak summer travel season and with rapidly rising costs for domestic beach holidays within Russia, the NMI remains an extremely attractive family holiday destination for Russians, particularly for those living in the Far East of

Russia centered on Vladivostok and Khabarovsk.

Arrivals from China grew 57 percent to 17,575 visitors, making China the largest source market for the NMI in July. Century Tours launched two additional charter flights a week from Shanghai to Saipan starting July 25, which has had a major impact on arrivals from the East China market. In addition, the MVA launched a Key Opinion Leader program on the two major Chinese social media networks—Sina Weibo and Wechat—starting from June which has generated significant on-line buzz for the NMI in the China market.

Arrivals from Korea dropped 23 percent in July to 10,099 visitors. Given generally weak

outbound travel, Asiana temporarily suspended its

Busan flights but has already resumed its Busan-Saipan service since July 23. However, Asiana had an extra flight from July 16-31, which brought in 2,790 additional airseats. Low-cost carrier Jeju Air continues to sell 'Early Bird' tickets through its official website for its new daily non-stop service from Seoul to Saipan launching Oct. 1. To draw more attention to its inaugural flight, Jeju Air has launched a special online promotion in cooperation with the MVA and is launching major campaigns with various partners promoting the new CNMI flights.

Arrivals from Japan fell 42 percent to 6,307 visitors in July, driven partly by the temporary suspension by Delta Air Lines of two night-flights per week from Narita. In addition,

there were no Asiana Airlines flights from Tokyo and Osaka during the month of July while by comparison, during the same month in 2013, the airline operated 4,700 seats to the NMI. Boosting air links from Japan to the CNMI remains the MVA's number one overseas marketing priority for the coming months. To this end, the MVA has appointed a new Airlift Development Manager in the Tokyo office to work with all airlines serving the Japan market, and generate new air seats out of the Japan market to the NMI.

Source Markets Economic Highlights Japan's government upgraded its economic assessment in July for the first time in six months as the impact of the sales tax hike on consumer spending started to ease. The Cabinet Office said that the Japanese economy is on a moderate recovery trend

and the decline in spending due to the tax increase is easing. The yen hovered around 102 to the U.S. dollar. The Korean economic recovery has been slowing despite continuing stability in employment and inflation. GDP growth for 2014 is projected to be 3.8 percent and the forecast for 2015 is 4 percent. The won/dollar exchange rate rose 10.37 over the past month to be closed at 1,023.54 won per dollar. Compulsory tour options will now be eliminated from tour packages, enabling tourists to avoid unwanted stops, such as shopping centers, when booking overseas trips with local travel agencies. A revised ordinance enforced by the Culture Ministry and Korea Tourism Organization stops travel agencies from including such compulsory options, which can cause unwanted expenses, in tour packages. China's National Bureau of Statistics reported retail sales grew 12.1 percent year-on-year to US\$2.02-trillion in the six months to June, marginally stronger than the 12 percent growth of the first quarter. The value of the Chinese currency renminbi, or the yuan, weakened by 29 basis points to 6.1564 against the U.S. dollar in its central parity in late July, according to the China Foreign Exchange Trading System. Ctrip reported in July that Saipan ranked No. 7 among the Top 10 most attractive destinations without visa barriers to Chinese visitors

during the summer holiday period of 2014.

The Russian economy continues to experience a deceleration as a result of the extended geopolitical tension. On June 30 the exchange rate was 33.63 rubles to the dollar.

The Northern Mariana Islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota are a chain of idyllic islands in the West Pacific, offering a friendly, fun and exciting vacation in paradise. They are an excellent destination for families, adventure and sports-minded travelers, as well as business people looking for a tropical haven. Adventurous travelers from Asia, Australia, Europe and elsewhere looking for new travel discoveries will find them in the Mariana Islands, just three hours travel from most cities in Japan, and four from Asia and Australia. The Northern Marianas are served from Tokyo and Osaka in Japan by Delta and Asiana Airlines. From Korea, Asiana provides direct flights from Seoul and Busan. From China, direct flight service from Shanghai, Beijing, Guangzhou, Tianjin, Hangzhou and Wuhan to Saipan is available. United Airlines has daily flight connections from nine cities in Japan to Saipan with one stop. United States mainland connections can be made by Delta Air Lines to Saipan via Tokyo Narita, and United Airlines via Guam. For more information, visit www.mymarianas.com. (MVA)

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
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Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.mp>

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Chairwoman of the Board, is hereby giving notice that the Special Meeting of the Board is scheduled on **Wednesday, August 20, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. at the NMHC's Conference Room, Garapan, Saipan.** The public is welcome to submit written or oral comments regarding the agenda below. Individuals interested in attending the meeting and needing special accommodations are requested to contact NMHC in advance.

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS**
 - a. Call to Order
 - b. Roll Call
 - c. Adoption of Agenda
 - d. Adoption of Minutes
 - i. August 6, 2014 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
- II. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- III. NEW BUSINESS**
 - a. NMHC's Policies and Procedures
 1. CDBG
 2. Program and Housing Division
 3. Mortgage & Credit Division
 4. Fiscal Division
 5. QAP 2015/16
 - b. Saipan Comfort Homes LIHTC Application
- IV. OLD BUSINESS**
 - a. USDA RD Update
- V. LEGAL COUNSEL'S PENDING/ONGOING REPORT**
- VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION**
- VII. OTHER MATTERS**
- VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

(Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) (7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session.)

/s/ **MARCIE M. TOMOKANE**
Chairwoman of the Board

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PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP NO.: RFP14-DOC-143

SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 19, 2014 **TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

"CNMI DOC FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM. A PROJECT UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS"

THE SCOPE OF WORK IS AVAILABLE ON OR AFTER AUGUST 19, 2014 AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DRIVE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON SEPTEMBER 05, 2014 AT 10:00 A.M., LOCAL TIME AT THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS, TENKEN STREET, SUSUPE, SAIPAN.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO COMMISSIONER RAMON C. MAFNAS VIA E-MAIL TO rjmafnas@gmail.com OR BY FAX TO (670) 664-9515 NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, SEPTEMBER 10, 2014. RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS SHALL BE SHARED WITH ALL PROSPECTIVE PROPOSERS.

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/s/ **RAMON C. MAFNAS**
COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONS

/s/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**
DIRECTOR, P&S

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Saipan Tribune

"I want to go shopping!"

MILE CNMI meets with Heinz and Yumul

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Independent gubernatorial candidate Heinz Hofschneider and his runningmate Sen. Ray Yumul (IR-Saipan) led a discussion discerning political "myths from truths" with MILE CNMI last Thursday night as part of youth voter group's ongoing meetings with this year's gubernatorial candidates.

The meeting with Hofschneider and Yumul came two days after the group's meeting with Gov. Eloy S. Inos and his runningmate Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan).

The group of young voters are dedicated to getting more young people like themselves to vote, and have scheduled or are working to schedule meetings with candidates to inform themselves about the candidates as well as issues in the Commonwealth.

Irene Tantiado, a group organizer, said the young voters "want to be smart."

"[They want to] make the informed decision when they choose their candidate," she said.

She added that the group is focused on getting more young people to vote, a concern which Hofschneider shared.

In his community outreach, he

said, "I found more than 1,000 kids not registered."

He added that this was not "healthy democratically" and urges youth to register and start communicating with politicians about what they want to see done in the community.

During discussion, Hofschneider took the white board and spelt out "myths" and "truth" as discussion ranged from the economy, to the current state of government leadership, and contract workers.

He cited persistent problems with utility costs, the state of the island hospital, and an economy he claims is not improving as some of the problems he has with leadership in the CNMI these last 10 years.

"Leaders have failed the last 10 years," he said.

When the issue of contract worker status was brought up by members of the group, he took the time to distinguish the government's actual role in the issue, suggest that since decision-making is currently left to federal authorities, what the island must do to ensure the retaining of its contract workers is to continue to grow the economy.

"Mark my word. We will grow the economy. We will peti-

tion... for CW workers," he said.

He assured the guest worker children in the group of their ability to petition their parents for visas to stay on island once they become of age and emphasized their importance in the CNMI's future.

"If you're born here, this is your place. You're just as good as anybody on island," he said.

While Hofschneider tied a strong economy to a better CNMI for its citizens and contract workers, he said that inviting any kind of investment to the island is "failed thinking" and added that there was no magic solution to grow a larger economy.

"Don't wait for that pie in the sky," he said. "Each of us has to put a little sweat in it."

A member of MILE CNMI, who would like not be named, said he was satisfied with the night's discussion.

The group is currently working to meet with the other gubernatorial candidates. They are scheduled to meet with Democratic candidate Edward Masga Deleon Guerrero this Friday.

The group is also conducting an informal poll among 18-25 year olds for who would they vote for among this year's candidates.



Pacifica Insurance Underwriters Inc staff member Samantha Sikayun, right, poses with the 40 for 40 Giveaway 12th prize winner Ma Nida Balina, left, after presenting a certificate for a year of free automobile insurance. Forty for forty is a giveaway promotion designed to thank the CNMI and Pacifica's customers for forty years of business. Forty winners for a year of free insurance in celebration of 40 years. Last drawing is slated for Dec. 15. For information about Pacifica's 40 for 40 giveaway log on to www.pacificains.com/fortyforty or call 234-6267/7722/7310. Rest assured, CNMI.

SIS Little Geckos Program enrollment ongoing

Enrollment is now open at the Little Geckos Program of Saipan International School. The 2014-2015 school year will begin on Sept. 2, 2014.

SIS is offering an all-day (7:45am-2:45pm) educational program for students from age 2 to 4 years old.

The Little Geckos program will be ran by Mrs. Francine Basa and features learning activities specially designed for young children. The cost is \$300 per month with a one time \$100 registration fee. Parents who would like to extend the day to 5pm must pay an addition \$100 per month.

SIS was established in 1994 and is fully accredited by the

Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

For more information, please

call SIS at 288-9660 or email the Headmaster tim.s.bray@gmail.com. (PR)

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following position:

General Maintenance Worker

High school diploma or equivalent with at least 3 years experience especially in equipment and appliance repair. Must have some basic knowledge and troubleshooting experience in plumbing and electrical systems, masonry, carpentry, and other cleaning and general maintenance work inside and outside facilities. Must be able to lift and move heavy supplies and objects. Must be willing to work flexible hours.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Thursday, August 28, 2014.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

AC PACIFIC LLC, DBA STAR SANDS

Is an Equal Opportunity Employer

WE ARE CURRENTLY SEEKING POSITIVE, ENERGETIC AND OUTGOING INDIVIDUALS FOR THE POSITION

OF:

1 – ASSISTANT MANAGER

Applicants must have at least 4 years work related experience in the retail/gift shop business. Must be friendly, approachable, people skills, a trainer, can work on a broken schedules including weekends and holidays, ability to speak other languages but not required, must have good communication skills, both oral and written, can work with the computer and the cash register, ability to make work schedule.

2 – TEAM LEADER

Applicants must have at least 2 years work related experience in the retail/gift shop business. Must be friendly, approachable, people skills, a trainer, can work on broken schedules and on holidays, ability to speak other languages but not required, must have good communication skills both oral and written, can work with computer and cash register, able to make work schedule.

1 – ACCOUNTANT

Applicants must have at least 5 years work experience. Must be computer literate, specially the use of accounting software such as QB, ACCUPOS. Must have excellent communication skills (oral and written). Must be able to perform bank reconciliation/Payroll/BGRT tax, Input all excise tax payable and other billing to QB, analyze receiving data from POS to QB, record all vendor invoices to QB on daily basis, review and prepare vendor payment based on due dates. Must be detail and deadline oriented. Partake in physical inventory. Must be able to work on weekends and holidays.

4 – MERCHANDISER / BUYER

Applicants must have at least 3 years work experience in retail industry. Have great sense of marketing, promotion and advertising techniques. Must be computer literate and must able to read/write and speak English as she/he will order product via phone, emails, fax from off-island and on-island supplier, ability to speak other languages such as Chinese, Korean, Japanese and Russian is a plus but not required. Must be able to work flexible hours, including weekends and holidays.

12 – SALES ASSOCIATE

Applicant must have work experience in retail sales, cash handling and using Point Of Sale system. Must have excellent communication skills (oral and written). Must have excellent customer service skills. Bi-lingual Chinese, Korean, Japanese and Russian is preferred. Must be able to work flexible hours, weekends and holidays.

1 – CUSTOMER SERVICE COORDINATOR

Ability to interact with customers, providing answer to inquiries about the products, prices, promotions and services, ability to speak other languages such as Chinese, Korean, Japanese and Russian is preferred. Must have excellent customer services skills. Must be friendly and great personality. Ability to work flexible hours, weekends and holidays.

1 – GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Applicants must have 4 years of work experience. Must have excellent communication skills (oral and written). Must have creativity and visual advertising skills to perform wide variety of promotions and store signage. Must be hardworking, resourceful and has a keen eye for details. Knowledgeable of printing procedures, website designing and maintenance, point of sales display concept. Must be proficient in Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Dreamweaver, Adobe Acrobat, Coral Draw & other graphic designing software. Must be able to work flexible hours, weekends and holidays

1 – TEMPORARY TATTOO ARTIST

Applicants must have 4 years of work experience working with registered imitation of an original tattoo. Must be knowledgeable the uses of brush and variety of inks and colors. Ability to explain and help customer decide if designs in terms of the tattoos are adapted to their skins for a period longer or not. Must have excellent communication skills (oral and written). Must have excellent customer services. Must be able to work flexible hours, weekends and holidays.

1 – MAGICIAN

Applicants must have the ability to perform illusion or other tricks to entertain customers. Must have excellent communication skills both in oral and written. Must be friendly and great personality. Ability to work under pressure and can work on weekends and holidays.

1 – SYSTEM/NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR

Applicants must have proficient knowledge in Networking/ Active Directory, Sonic wall devices-VPN Configuration/ Tunneling, Firewall Policies and Rules, Port Programming, Microsoft Dynamic AX 2012, SQL Server 2008 R2, Windows server 2008 Flat form, Visual Studio 2010, NET working Programming, C# Programming, VOIP Structure, In depth knowledge in ERP Administration. Computer and IT Hardware Configuration. Must be able to work flexible hours including weekends and holidays.

1 – COOK

Must possess five (5) years of work experience or more. Creative, ability to create new menu when ask by the supervisor, understands the customer wants and needs, friendly and can work fast under pressure. Must follow company policy and procedures. Can work on a broken shift including weekends and holidays.

1 – GENERAL MAINTENANCE (Handy Man)

Applicants must have at least 5 years work experience. Must have excellent communication skills (oral and written). Ability to perform multiple task but not limited to plumbing, electrical, carpentry and masonry work and able to work flexible hours including weekends and holidays.

2 – HOUSEKEEPING

Responsible to maintain the cleanliness of the entire store inside and outside. Must be self motivated. Ability to communicate English both in oral and written. Must also capable to perform unexpected duty assigned by the management, can work on a broken shift including weekends and holidays.

NO PHONE CALL

In order to apply for a job at Star Sands Plaza, Please visit our website

<http://www.starsandsplaza.com>

and follow the instruction. If you do not have access to computer/Internet, Employment Applications are available at Star Sands Plaza office.

Inos inks awareness proclamation on oral cancer

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

CNMI advocates fighting oral cancer trooped to the Governor's Office in Capitol Hill last Friday to witness Gov. Eloy S. Inos sign a proclamation providing awareness on oral cancer in the CNMI.

The proclamation stated that chewing betelnut with tobacco and other additives is one of the leading causes of oral cancer in the CNMI.

"Each year in the U.S alone, approximately 42,000 individuals are newly diagnosed with oral cancer, the majority of which are diagnosed as late stage cancers, which accounts for the very high death rate," the proclamation states.

The Commonwealth Cancer Association in partnership with various dental clinics in the CNMI; Seventh-Day Adventist Clinic, the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.-Division of

Public Health Service, CHCC Dental Clinic, Dental Care Clinic, New Wave Clinic, Smile Marianas Clinic, and Tooth Works Clinic are offering free oral cancer screening for all ages, that only takes about three minutes "that could save your life."

"All of the dental clinics in the CNMI are working together to save lives by providing free oral cancer screening, we encourage everyone in the

CNMI to take advantage of the free screenings and to educate yourself and your loved ones about oral cancer," the proclamation states.

Individuals that feel a sensation that something is stuck in their throat, numbness in the oral region, difficulty in moving the jaw or tongue, difficulty swallowing, ear pain which occurs on one side only, a sore under a denture which even after adjust-

ment of dentures, still does not heal, and a lump or thickening which develops in the mouth or neck, indicate oral cancer and should be checked by the dental clinics here on CNMI.

The dentist or doctor can see or feel the precancerous tissue changes or any early cancer, finding it at the most curable stages, three minutes of the check up will save your life from the disease itself.

CNMI advocates fighting oral cancer urged the public that everyone over the age of 18 should be screened annually, which is simple, painless, and quick.

"Early detection saves lives," they said.

Inos also urged the CNMI community to avail of the services provided and fight oral cancer together and save a life every day.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CCA president Lauri B. Ogumoro and Gov. Eloy S. Inos listen as Camia Sablan reads the proclamation on oral cancer awareness.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Oral cancer advocates led by the Commonwealth Cancer Association join Gov. Eloy S. Inos during last Friday's proclamation signing providing awareness on oral cancer in the CNMI.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

SDA Clinic's Dr. Kenneth Pierson, CCA president Lauri B. Ogumoro, Gov. Eloy S. Inos, Camia Sablan hear from oral cancer advocates during last week's proclamation signing.

Supreme Court affirms Taman conviction

The Commonwealth Supreme Court affirmed Gao Yue Ying Taman's conviction for promoting prostitution stemming from her actions at Kelly's Bar.

Her arrest and conviction were the product of a joint investigation between local law enforcement and military personnel. On appeal, Taman challenged her conviction because: (1) the trial court improperly admitted testimony of two Navy Criminal Investigative Service ("NCIS") agents; (2) the trial court failed to inform

her that she had the right to testify; and (3) there was insufficient evidence.

The court concluded that the NCIS agents' testimony was admissible. While United States law ordinarily prevents military personnel from being involved in local investigations (and thus testifying about such investigations), the Court recognized that the agents' participation fell under one of the recognized exceptions: independent military purpose. The agents had two independent purposes for

participating: protecting military personnel and maintaining military secrets. These objectives are threatened by prostitution because it puts soldiers at a risk of acquiring sexually transmitting diseases or sharing military secrets.

Furthermore, the court explained that there is no constitutional obligation for the trial court to inform the defendant of the right to testify. While acknowledging that a minority of jurisdictions have imposed such a requirement, the Court

found the majority position more persuasive.

Finally, the court concluded there was sufficient evidence to sustain Taman's promoting prostitution conviction. The trial court heard from multiple witnesses that Taman was negotiating prices for sex and heard that she took multiple steps to facilitate prostitution.

The Supreme Court's full opinion in *Commonwealth v. Taman* can be found at <http://www.cnmilaw.org/supreme14.html>. (*Supreme Court*)

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

August 19, 2012

Fitial impeachment plan firms up, draws community support

The House minority bloc has reduced to a "handful" the articles of impeachment contained in a resolution calling for Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's impeachment, to ensure each one of them specifically points to "corruption or neglect of duty."

The planned impeachment resolution also inspired a concerned citizen to hold a placard that reads, "Honk... impeachment," that drew support from passing motorists on a road leading to Capital Hill on Saturday.

That concerned citizen, who requested the media not to pub-

lish her name but agreed to be photographed, said she represents the "silent majority" already fed up with the corruption and other bad things happening in government.

"I am supporting those House minority members, including Congressman Joe Guerrero and (Ray) Tebuteb, in their call for impeachment," the woman said. "A lot of people are afraid to talk because they might lose their government job. But this needs to be done. People must stand up for people."

Motorists were honking their horns as they passed by the woman holding the placard, near Mobil station in Sadog Tasi.

Muña-Barnes continues

relief efforts for PH flood victims

Guam Sen. Tina Muña-Barnes in coordination with the Grand Taj Restaurant and the Filipino Community of Guam continue their Philippine Flood Relief efforts by conducting a special promotion at the Grand Taj Restaurant from Aug. 20 to Aug. 27, 2012.

For a limited time, the Grand Taj Restaurant will donate portions of the proceeds of each lunch buffet and/or dinner entrée purchased at the restaurant to Philippine Flood Relief efforts being coordinated by the Office of Senator Tina Muña-Barnes and the Filipino Community of Guam. The restaurant will also be accepting donations of non-perishable food items.

The Grand Taj Restaurant, led by chef and owner Kotwal Singh, is open for business on the 2nd Floor of the Grand Plaza Hotel in Tumon and they can be reached at 979-1009. With over 30 years experience

in the restaurant business, chef Kotwal and the Grand Taj Restaurant offer guests a wide array of Indian vegetarian and non-vegetarian dishes.

"The support we have received from our island including the Grand Taj Restaurant and the Filipino Community of Guam is very inspirational. We continue to ask our community to find it in their hearts to help us in our efforts to provide support to our brothers and sisters in the Philippines by visiting the Grand Taj or by making donations at the restaurant," said Muña-Barnes.

25-year power deal with Saipan Development could be linked to dry dock project

When Commonwealth Utilities Corp. acting executive director Alan Fletcher told senators on Thursday that the only Saipan Development LLC representatives he saw weeks before July 10 were Don Kurz of Key-

stone Shipping and Kenneth Mahmood, lawmakers raised a possible link between the questionable 25-year power purchase agreement and a 25-year land lease for a proposed dry dock and shipyard project in Lower Base.

Mahmood is part owner of Allegiance Capitol Corp., which proposed a dry dock project to the Commonwealth Ports Authority in 2009.

The project would have been at the seaplane ramp area in Lower Base that is the site of a submarine station, a restaurant and holding area for Tinian boats, as well as CUC's Power Plant 1, Saipan's main power plant.

Mahmood at the time claimed the dry dock project would bring in \$100 million in revenue a year.

CNMI PSS only entity removed from 'high risk'

U.S. Department of Education

senior risk management consultant Christine Jackson labeled as "impressive" the performance of the CNMI Public School System in numerous areas and aspects, despite the fact that it only received limited resources for its operation each year.

For many years, Jackson disclosed that PSS is the only entity under her jurisdiction that was removed from "high risk" status.

She revealed that it was in 2003 when USDOE placed the CNMI public schools in high risk status in relation to managing its federal awards. But barely a year after, she said PSS successfully lifted the status under the then-leadership of the late Dr. Rita Hocog Inos as education commissioner.

"Since 2004, PSS successfully maintained and continuous its progress ... [I can say] the only entity that was removed from high risk status since then," she told Saipan Tribune Friday.

Bolivar assumes command of Joint Region Marianas

AGANA HEIGHTS, Guam—Joint Region Marianas held a change of command ceremony at the Guam High School gymnasium aboard U.S. Naval Hospital Guam last Aug. 15.

Rear Adm. Bette Bolivar relieved Rear Adm. Tilghman Payne as Commander, Joint Region Marianas; U.S. Defense Representative Guam, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Federated States of Micronesia and Republic of Palau; and Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Marianas.

Vice Adm. William French, Commander, Navy Installations Command, was the ceremony's guest speaker and praised Payne for his leadership during his tour.

"The region Marianas team flawlessly executed over \$500 million worth of military construction," French said. "Tilghman and his team managed the largest U.S. training range in the Western Pacific. Over the last two years, Tilghman and his team

have coordinated over 2,000 training events on those ranges and that's really what matters."

Following his remarks, French presented Payne with the Defense Superior Service Medal for his service on Guam from July 2012 to August 2014.

During that time, Payne provided context regarding the U.S. Defense Policy Realignment Initiative to senior members of the U.S. and Japanese governments, furthering force realignment to Guam. In the wake of threats from North Korea, he led the effort to receive a Terminal High Altitude Defense system, a strategic asset that strengthened regional defenses, deferred aggression and highlighted the nation's commitment to the defense of the Mariana Islands.

"The past two years have been an extraordinary opportunity for me both professionally and personally," Payne said. "This job has enabled me to be involved in the entire breadth of



U.S. NAVY PHOTO BY JOANNA DELFIN

Rear Adm. Bette Bolivar, Vice Adm. William French, Commander, Navy Installations Command, and Rear Adm. Tilghman Payne stand at attention during the Joint Region Marianas change of command ceremony at the Guam High School gymnasium on U.S. Naval Hospital Guam. Bolivar relieved Payne as Commander, Joint Region Marianas.

activities that a military officer can do. It involves a bit of diplomacy, lots of work with the other services, great engagement with the community and the ability to make things better for our soldiers, Sailors, airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen, and their families."

Payne thanked members of the Government of Guam and

the local community for their partnership and expressed his gratitude to his staff for their support during his tour.

"All the men and women who have made the past two years at the helm of the only joint region in the Department of Defense such an enjoyable experience, thank you," he said. "You are doing incredible things and it's

been an honor to be a part of your team."

Payne retires after 33 years in the Navy.

Bolivar reports to Guam after serving as Commander, Navy Region Northwest.

"The morale and energy of this region are awesome and strong," Bolivar said. "I know I have some big shoes to fill but

you can rest assured that you will leave team Marianas in good hands. They will be my top priority and together we will meet the challenges head-on with continued success. Team Guam, team Marianas, thank you for the warm welcome you've shown me so far. I look forward to working with each and every one of you." (PR)

Air Force, Navy to conduct training

ASAN, Guam—The Air Force will conduct training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla during the following dates and times:

- Aug. 18 from 6 a.m. to 11:59 p.m.

- Aug. 19 from 12:01 - 1 a.m.

The Navy will conduct training at Warning Area 517 Aug. 19-20 from 12:30pm to 8:30pm.

The general public especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants. Farallon de Medinilla plays a special and unique role in national defense because its location provides access frequency that

supports established training requirements. In addition, the air and sea space in the Farallon provides sufficient room for the many different attack profiles necessary to replicate training opportunities in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. W-517 supports surface and aerial gunnery, missiles, and laser exercises. This will affect fishing in the vicinity of Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank. W-517 is contained within the following coordinates: 13° 10'N/144° 30'E, 13° 10'N/144° 42'E, 12° 50'N/144° 45'E, 11° 00'N/144° 45'E, 11° 00'N/143° 00'E, 11° 45'N/143° 00'E, 12° 50'N/144° 30'E. (PR)

Bank of Guam announces 8th Annual Christmas Card contest

» For elementary and middle school students, deadline Oct. 3, 2014

HAGATNA, Guam—Bank of Guam is now accepting entries for its 8th Annual Christmas Card Contest, which is open to all elementary and middle school students throughout Guam, the CNMI, Republic of Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

"My Favorite Island Christmas Tradition" is this year's theme, and the winner will be featured on the cover of the Bank's Christmas Card which is annually sent to businesses and individuals. The medium is a 4"x 6" card entry using watercolors, pastel crayons, colored pencils or acrylic paints only.

Prizes are as follows:

- First Place: \$250.00
- Second Place: \$175.00
- Third Place: \$100.00

- Gift baskets of school supplies will also be included with the cash prizes.

A Cold Stone Creamery coupon will be given to the first 500 entries from Guam. Contest rules and applications are available at all Elementary and Middle Schools, at any Bank of Guam branches and its website, www.bankofguam.com.

For more information, please contact Kebrina Duenas at (671) 472-5236, email at kebrina.duenas@bankofguam.com or fax at (671) 477-6796. (PR)

DLNR receives \$469K grant from OIA

The Department of Lands and Natural Resources recently received notification of its grant award from the Office of Insular Affairs' Brown Treesnake Control Program. The \$469,000 grant award will support the program activities of the DFW Brown Treesnake Programs on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota for Fiscal Year 2014-2015.

The DFW Brown Treesnake Program has been dedicated to preventing the introduction of the brown treesnake (*Boiga irregularis*) in the CNMI. Due to the CNMI's immediate proximity to Guam, the brown treesnake represents an ever-present threat to the native fauna of the CNMI. Guam has seen its forest bird and lizard faunas decimated by the brown treesnake. The CNMI is home to 20 species of native forest birds and lizards, 10 of which are endemic spe-

cies, and 5 of which are listed species. The negative impacts the brown treesnake would have on the unique biodiversity of the CNMI are clear and fully disheartening. The negative impacts would reach beyond the realm of biodiversity.

The BTS program prevention activities include inspecting incoming cargo with detector dogs, monitoring all ports of entry with BTS specific traps, public outreach, and responding to snake sightings of reported brown treesnakes. The CNMI receives over 200 commercial flights from Guam each month, and these airplanes and their cargo are inspected upon landing in Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. Cargos that arrive through the seaport are inspected as well, as are all military aircraft originating from Guam. The program also monitors over 200 snake

traps at the airports and seaports on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. The last credible snake sighting in the CNMI occurred in 2009.

DLNR Secretary Arnold Palacios expresses his appreciation to OIA for continuing to provide this critical funding for the CNMI BTS program. "Through the persistent efforts of the CNMI BTS program, we have been successful in preventing the introduction of brown treesnakes in the CNMI. Considering the potential catastrophic effect of the introduction of brown treesnakes on our islands, it is essential that we continue to strengthen our defense against these snakes."

The BTS Program serves as the absolute line of defense for preventing the spread of the brown treesnake from Guam to the CNMI. It is critical that the program remains fully func-

tional to prevent economical, public health and environmental impacts as a result of the introduction of the brown treesnake to the CNMI.

Snake identification is critical, as the snake must be immediately contained and/or killed to prevent movement into an area that would provide refuge and hinder the capture of the animal. The public can help fulfill the program's mission of preventing the spread of BTS. If you see a snake, kill it and then call the BTS program hotline at 287-6253 (28-SNAKE). If a snake cannot be killed, report the snake sighting immediately and a rapid response team will be sent out to the area to trap and kill the snake.

For more information about the BTS program or to request a presentation, please call 664-6014. (PR)

OVR counselors to conduct Aug. 23 outreach in Kagman

Office of Vocational Rehabilitation counselors will be conducting outreach at the Kagman Community Center on Saturday, Aug. 23, 2014, from 9am to 12pm.

Individuals interested in applying for vocational rehabilitation services are encouraged to take advantage of this outreach activity. Normally, orientation and intake/application are conducted at the OVR office in Navy Hill on Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m. However, in an effort to increase its referral numbers, OVR is also reaching out to unserved or underserved populations.

According to the OVR and State Rehabilitation Council's (SRC) 2014 comprehensive statewide needs assessment final report, "The distant villages in Saipan were also consistently identified as being underserved. Outreach to these villages has been limited in the past due to their distance and the limited number of OVR staff to do this kind of outreach. Conversely, potential consumers that live in the distant villages in Saipan do not travel to the OVR office, contributing to the limited number of people

being served in these areas."

An applicant is eligible for vocational rehabilitation services if the individual: 1) is an individual with a disability, and; 2) has a physical or mental impairment which for such individual constitutes or results in a substantial impediment to employment; and can benefit in terms of an employment outcome from vocational rehabilitation services, and; 3) requires vocational rehabilitation services to prepare for, secure, or retain employment; and 4) has legal status to allow employment in the CNMI or U.S.

OVR extends its appreciation to Diana Camacho of Ayuda Network/SRC and Laura Ogunmoro of the Department of Community & Cultural Affairs (DCCA) for coordinating and making the outreach possible at the KCC.

The Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority (COTA) provides transportation service for a standard fee of \$5/person/ride with a discounted price of \$3/ride for persons with disabilities and the elderly age 55 and over. Please schedule your ride in advance by calling COTA at 664-2690. (PR)

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Belated justice: Cambodia settles a score with the Khmer Rouge

It took three years, but after a trial conducted by the Cambodian government in partnership with the United Nations, two former high-ranking officials were convicted of crimes against humanity for their roles as leaders of the Khmer Rouge during its bloody reign from 1975 to 1979.

Though neither Nuon Chea, 88, nor Khieu Samphan, 83, is as well-known as Pol Pot, the late former leader of the Khmer Rouge, their convictions last week as the two most senior surviving leaders of the communist regime responsible for 1.7 million deaths are important.

The two were found guilty of murder and extermination, plus other crimes. They were part of a regime that forced Cambodians out of their homes and into the countryside in what resulted in a brutal, unsuccessful attempt at collective farming. The Khmer Rouge quickly proved themselves to be incompetent managers but efficient killers. Tens of thousands of Cambodian civilians starved while many more became victims of mass executions known in the West as "The Killing Fields."

Nuon Chea and Khieu Samphan were charged with engineering mass evacuations and a mass execution at one site. Many Cambodians are upset that they didn't face even more charges, including genocide. Still, the elderly former leaders are expected to be sentenced to life in prison.

With the pair's convictions, the people of Cambodia know that justice has been done, even if it took nearly four decades. Even though Pol Pot died without being brought to trial, his top lieutenants will die in their jail cells.

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The parasites of August

I got bit August summer of '68 in Litchfield, Maine. In my early 20s, I had four weeks to engage the church youth in summer camps attended by teenyboppers from up and down Maine to Connecticut. It was a pleasant summer save the buzzing mosquitoes.

I grew up in the Cagayan Valley where the anopheles carried malaria around. I never got the shakes, staying faithful within the standard mosquito net canopy. In Nigeria, I guarded the intake of training participants by Lagoon Lagos but I was lax with my prophylactics. The plasmodium got me climbing the walls.

The local Maine story was that the government sprayed DDT to eradicate the pesky pests until the authorities realized that not only was the compound detrimental to humans, it also evolved mosquitoes into bigger and stronger breeds.

It was not until the late 70s when I heard a similar story but with a more prominent role given the mosquitoes. For their size, they were labeled as the provincial birds of Manitoba, no longer just swatted but systematically eradicated with chemicals! The result was predictable.

After a weekend in July last month in the pleasant surroundings of Alberta's Banff and Lake Louise, by magnificent Lake Moraine, and the bouncy rapids of the Bow River flowing from Jaspers where the head streams of the Saskatchewan river began at the Athabasca glaciers of the Canadian Rockies, my lungs had its fill of clean air and fresh winds compared to the haze of Calgary that was in the middle of its annual dust-filled Stampede. The iced mineral water was tastier than the cold bottled one that dispensed for a dollar in the Plains.

It was not yet August on the tail end of the chuckwagon races and the rodeo-riding cowboys when one slender long-legged bloodsucking female capable of passing on the dreaded Egyptian encephalitis alighted on my brazzo. I quickly gave it the swat.

It is its cousins that buzz around the plains of Manchuria where Shenyang is nestled by the Liaohe, the river that gives the province its name. Given the swampy areas along the Bohai shores, there are many stagnant waters where the aquatic larvae of the mosquito thrive and multiply.

Males among DCHS' 59ers (Davao City High School) in the Banff tour related jokes during the bus ride. I added my mosquito cowboy shoot-out story setting it on an old West Texas bar transported to a lower Alberta ranch town. It went:

A mosquito buzzed by while three cowboys nursed their spirited quaffs in a Calgary bar. So the wide-brim-hatted gringo drew his six-shooter and a buzzer was a dot on the wall. With no shortage of pride, the cowboy blew the smoke off his gun nozzle.

Another buzzer came by and the Canadian ranch hand took his aim, clipped the mosquito's wings, making the buzzer zig-

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.



zag dizzily down to its ignominy. The bartender shrugged his shoulders. No word was exchanged.

Then another mosquito ventured into the bar space, and a Chinoy pulled his trigger. The fly kept on flying. Usually short of words, the gringo and the Canadien gave the Chinoy a surly look. They said, "You missed." The Chinoy replied: "Mayhap, but he ain't havin' no more babies no more!"

Buzzers were not funny in Oleai and CK as they flew into Saipan's Beach Road when favorably nurtured by the rain and the sun. The mosquitoes were my antagonists for occupancy in the old San Jose Motel before the place was consigned to disrepair. Non-humans in this planet, particularly creatures nice and small, are faring well.

Even the Ebola virus is winning in Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, and West Africa! Already, the infection has become pandemic with the world on red alert over the local health structures inability to deal with the epidemic. A call for assistance from partner countries had been issued. Experimental medication was just approved for use to indicate the severity and desperation of the situation. Nigeria just added to the death count.

Meanwhile, humanoids around the world grow bigger brains and larger butts, multi-layered bellies and paunchier girths, spending lives at the altar of consumer goods longing for comfort but ever anxious over health and personal security.

This reflection is about "me and mosquitoes," not about English (the proper form is "mosquitoes and I" but "me and mosquitoes" sounds better). It is about sharing the same space without elbowing each other out of existence. Change the phrase in quote to "Palestinian and Jew, Chinese and Japanese, Iraqi and Irani, Kiev Ukrainian and Donets'k Ukrainian, SoKor and NoKor, etc.," and you get my drift.

My neighbor's yard smells of all kinds of sprays in the morning as he controls the pests in his home garden. His sunflowers bloom well. Meanwhile, the incidence of youth's neural disorders in my neighborhood has multiplied. Chemotherapy before the cancer is just as lethal and deadly.

Stay away from the spray. The mosquito and Ebola are here to stay. So will I, BTW, with the parasites and viruses of August.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Kustumbren Tanu'

Gi tiempu 'nai umekuñgog-yu' antau na finu' mañai-na-ta, magahet na guaha dobladaña i usun palabra gi katkuet okasion. To'a, tomtum, antau yan sustansiau na eskaleran konbetsasion.

Deste palabran kon kariñu esta kobransa, guaha sasagaña ni motmut respetu yan hinimide. Kontodu i makokobla magof munana'lu inayauña. Esta hana' matmanyu' sa sessu hu li'e tau-tau-ta na i man-didibi kulan mohon guiya madidibi! Dios mihu!

Namagof i antau na konbetsasion achogha' pot chinatsaga. Taiguenau pumalabra i natibu piot i man-amko'ta siha. Era, siña marompe hau suabe na palabra lau sustansiau i mapega. Hagu la'mon haf' taimanu para un' aksepta yan dumispone i mana'yan-mu.

Sessu hu eksisia este na modun konbetsasion 'an katma hinasoghu. Hu chachage katma na inadiñgan gi halom pagyu. Tra-biha gai minakat lau dalai ya ti bai' na' mansu dispues.

Tanu Natibu

Lamayot patte gi Attikulu Dose mauleg espesiatmente gi malimitten dueñon tanu' gi natibu. Fuera de liñguahita, i tanu' ut-timu fuetsa-ta gi todú kinalamten hinerasion natibu. Sin este ut-timu na añkla pues kulan hit pidasun hayu gumagama katkuet pinanag napu gi halom taduñg tasi.

I irensian tanu' natibu patte petmanente gi tradision maprotehen tanu' para i manatatte. Ayu mina' deste antigu na tiempu establisau este na patte gi kutturan tanu'. Amanu i siña na sakrifisiu masuñgun ni man-mofo' na pot manatatte na famaguon tanu'. Ni unabes na pot otrú tautau solu famaguon natibu.

Yangin ta sedi muna' faliñgu este na direchu pues fuetsau ta choneg i manatatte para u gueku espiritun niha sa' taya' esta

'nai siña ha katsu siha kumu famaguon isla. Siempre ñalañg espiritun niha 'an ta utut petmanente relasion niha yan tanu' natibu! Estague' i takeke pribene pot no u fan lailai hayu ti halom taduñg na tasin destrosiu. Obligasion-ta prumutehe direchon i manatatte!

Debi u guaha respetu gi tradision tautau tanu'! Sin este haf' futtuna-ta kumu tautau? Kau guaha i nana na malefa ni patgon gi halom tiyaña?

Achon Natibu

I achon natibu entregau gi gumeluluye i tanu' na tiempu. Obligasion niha i para umakonduse mona hinanau i manatatte gi halom gatdun na sabenetan lina'la'.

Finu' un' sunidu, "Atan hulu' i pilan gi lañget...ha-i'ina i hemhum na chalan, para tali'e hinanau-ta, kulan un' saina gi famaguon, ha pupulan maseha manu...." Gaige guine sustansian achon ni man-maintrega hit ni man-mofona. Ayu' 'nai ta entrega i famaguon-ta gigon ta makreansa ya man-masegat gi finatinas antau na disision pot futtunan niha.

Saunau mamipet estake man-fitme temun niha ya libianu dispues umayudan maisa siha. Hombre si guelu megai besis 'nai ha mattitgue' pot proteksion i manatatte na hinerasion.

Na chagu' fan atan-mu

Seguruyu' na megai gi entre hita humuñog akonsehon mañai-na-ta para tana' lachagu' inatan-ta ke menan guieñgta. Bittun pinasensia ta nesessita gi este na puntu pot para tali'e klaru haf' tafafana'.

Ti bai matman 'an guaha hau chumochoneg para ta destrosia tradision tanu' guine. Ennau na sinegyu' kasse mafattu ginen

award, the kwh price goes up every year and it only starts at 18 cents per kwh. So you the rate payer will pay more each year.

Look, this is a 20-year commitment and over 33,000 solar panels, let's get this right. We all have to live with this project for a very long time. It's really not the CUC's fault, nor Ace's for that matter, it's just been too long. There has been extraordinary changes with lower costs associated with all aspects of solar, very similar to the significant drop and devastation seen in the housing markets.

The CUC under the terms of the of the original RFP (request for price) is not obligated to move forward with this solar contract and the original RFP process only took six months back in 2011. Let's do it again, should only take four months this time and for a 20 year commitment, we think that's a fair and reasonable request. We want to be sure that Saipan and Rota get the best solar products and the lowest cost per kwh.

We would like to hear how the ratepayers feel about this issue. Do you think the CUC board should rebid the solar project for Saipan and Rota. Please comment below, thank you.

Dave Hood

Coldwell Solar

PSS teachers stop complaining

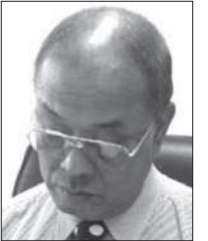
In the *Variety*, Aug. 13, the commissioner of PSS states that "of the \$40.5 million PSS budget, \$31.7 million will go to personnel" which begs the question, why does PSS need more money? The feds give about \$35 million every year, so why are you always asking for more money? What do you spend this \$76 million on, other than all the off-island trips you guys take?

According to CNMIPSS site... The CNMI Public School System anticipates receiving an estimated \$35.6 million dollars in federal program funding for FY15 (Oct. 1, 2014 through Sept. 30, 2015). Approximately, 1/3rd staff FTEs. The remaining 2/3rds fund program operation. The Federal Programs Office (FPO) assisted our 19 public schools and 28 private schools with the development of their Title 1 targeted assistance and school-wide programs. Why are private schools included? They are for

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



man-riku ni ti man-natibu ni esta kantida na tanu' mafahan ya man-malagu man-dueñu pot keblen niha.

Todu klassen atte guaha guine na rimulinu. Lau todú pinetsige tinagam ni Attikulu Dose sa' ti ligat machule'ña tanu' natibu. Taya' gi probision este na attikulu sumede tampen sinetnan. Debi klaru na todú bendidu na tanu' malimitte gi natibu. Klaru este na probision lai konstitusion 'sino Attikulu Dose.

Sige mafama pot balin tanu' yangin mababa kulan metkau 'nai todú siña man-mamahan. Esta na'chaleg sa' sige masuhon pot balin tanu'. 'Nai man-mabende balin \$30 mit pesus na tanu' gi \$5 mit pesus, ensegidas man-malefa ni balin tanu'. Ke lau hafa in' fafama na ti pot balin tanu'? In' apase i dueñu ni balin tano'ña? Che'chu' sumen yomug este na hipokritu! Dios mihu!

Geran biblia pot tanu'

I gera pa'gu giya Israet pot tanu' ni matutuhon deste mafañagun Santa Biblia. Lamegai na patte gi enteru elmundu sige lokue' estotbun pot tanu' deste entalu' China, Japones yan iya Filipinas. Kontodu pa'gu airen nasion kanaha' sumen piligru makrusa 'sino mapake papa' ruplanumu.

Nuebu siha na gera gi Mediu Sanhaya (Middle East) giya Uropa 'nai humuyuiñ tropan Hamas para u punu todú mañgilisyanu gi enteru elmundu. Ti metgot na grupu lau paire gi usun attem infotmasion para unna' impirau kinalamten kontodu iya Amerika.

I presidente as Obama piniloña na nahoñg ha' ni abisin fina' kuentos (speech) gi television. Malefa si pindehu na inembrarasa dañkulu na responsablidad offisiun offisinan presidente. Mampos heñuñ sañge gi siya ni mas pa'gu anog na ti listu gi disposition asuntun nasion. Pot fabot!

Un' tiempu dumaña hamyu na dos mananom gi un' gatbu na hatdin. In' tanume sombra petmanente, gulusina, agu'on haya yan golai siha. In' attende mauleg ya man-lachog tinanom miyu. Bonitu na hatdin ni tafanana'an Hatdin Korason-ta! Motmut guinaiya yan ginefli'e.

'An un' adiñgane i tautau gi liñguahe ni ha komprende, siempre u halom i mensahe gi tianosña. Lau 'nai un' adiñgane gi liñguahina u halom finu' miyu gi halom korasoña. Si lku.

profit corporations.

Let's see now, get my calculator out and, 35X1/3+31.7=43.3. OK. We have 677 (2012-3 report) teachers, aids and councilors, and 201 in administrative. Get my calculator out and 43.3/677+201=49,000. Wow, \$49,000/year salary is great pay for teachers in Saipan. What you say? That's only for teachers with over 10 years of service? Oh! The way I read it, it includes office, maintenance and other non-teaching positions also but that's the average, and it is an excellent salary for here, or anywhere.

If you aren't getting \$49,000 a year that means someone is getting more, in some cases, way more than you are and you should check it out. It also means to me that you teachers should be doing more for the students than telling them to be quiet, sit down, listen, and obey. You should be on the web daily looking for innovative ideas to introduce in your classrooms instead of pushing your 1950's agenda on these young people. It's 2014 people. Commissioner, you know that time, or money, will expand to fill the amount allocated to it. Go on YouTube and find out how school systems are doing more for less with technology.

Gary DuBrall

Chalan Piao

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Response to Saipan and Rota solar power

Well were glad to see everyone now agrees the price of solar has come down since 2011. Note the last letter to the editor entitled Saipan and Rota solar power appears to have been written by an Ace representative.

No matter how you look at the proposed solar project, the numbers just don't add up. Let's take another look.

A 10-megawatt project in the States will cost you around \$2.25 per watt or 22.5 million. Add some stabilizers to meet the 2009 International codes required by the islands, (hurricane winds 175 mph) add another 50 cents per watt. o the Saipan/Rota solar project should cost \$2.75 per watt or 27.5 million and certainly not the 40 million claimed in the Ace contract award.

Let's take a look at what was said about the cost of a PPA (purchase power agreement). In a PPA scenario the client (in this case the CUC) is never asked to pay anything for construction of the solar project because the system will be owned by someone else. In this case owned by Ace or a private investor. Once the project is complete the investor charges the utility so much per kwh (kilo watt hour).

PPA's are always turned key and include engineering costs, panels, solar mounting equipment, electrical components, inverters (for converting the DC power to AC power), transformers, grid interconnection costs, financing fees. In other words includes all costs associated with the solar project.

In a PPA the financing is done over 20 years and that's how a cost per kwh is determined. Twenty years is a long time and can easily include finance charges just like buying a home. Especially with today's low rates.






We ask you to consider the following. We know the total and overall cost of solar dropped more than 60 percent since 2011 (panels, inverters, racking, company margins) which equates to more than a \$1.00 per watt. This is well documented in the SEIA (Solar Energy Industries Association) and articles all over the internet. Doesn't it make sense we can do this for less today than a contract awarded in 2011? If there is any doubt don't we want to know?

Another issue you should know regarding the Ace contract

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 10 mph.	Partly sunny with isolated showers. Light and variable winds.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Thunderstorms	▲82 ▼77
Palau	Partly Cloudy	▲81 ▼79
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲82 ▼80
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	▲82 ▼80
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲82 ▼80
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲82 ▼80
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲83 ▼80

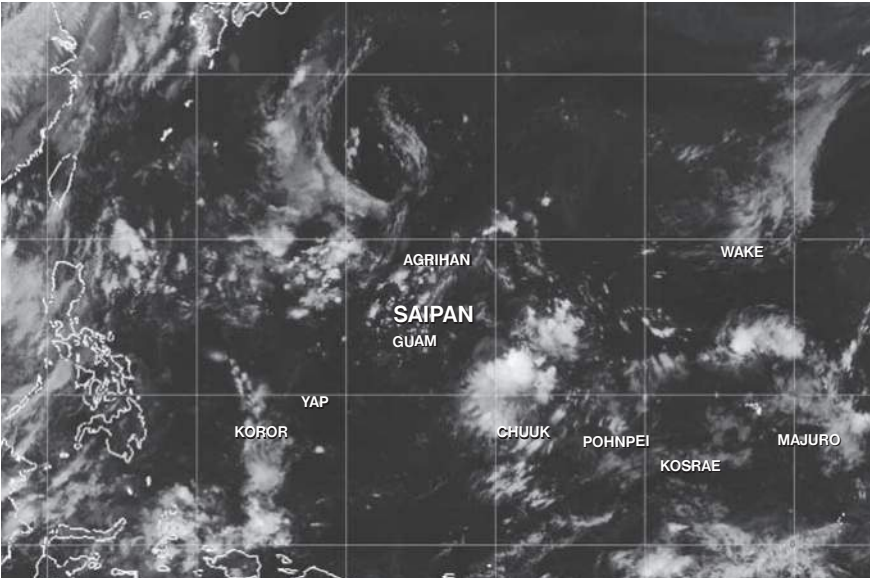
Around The Globe

Auckland	Rain	▲57 ▼53
Beijing	Sunny	▲91 ▼70
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	▲85 ▼79
Honolulu	Showers	▲86 ▼74
London	Showers	▲65 ▼49
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲89 ▼64
Manila	Thundershowers	▲91 ▼77
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲57 ▼41
Miami	Mostly Sunny	▲90 ▼78
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲82 ▼66
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	▲90 ▼75
Paris	Mostly Sunny	▲69 ▼51
Pusan	Thunderstorms	▲79 ▼73
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲86 ▼70
Salem	Sunny	▲94 ▼62
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲66 ▼57
Seoul	Showers	▲75 ▼67
Tokyo	Sunny	▲89 ▼77
Washington, DC	Mostly Cloudy	▲86 ▼73

Tides

Saipan Harbor			
2:32 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
10:12 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet
5:28 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.5 Feet
10:16 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, AUGUST 18, 2014

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

An upper-level low is centered near Iwo To island at 24N142E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are occurring west of the Northern CNMI between 17N and 25N from 134E to 141E. A surface trough extends northeastward from 13N140E to 25N143E. Isolated thunderstorms are seen along and up to 150 miles northwest of the trough axis. Low-level convergence is causing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms south of Koror or south of a line from 6N137E to 4N130E. A tropical disturbance is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms over Chuuk within 200 miles of a line from 7N151E to 16N155E. A surface trough curves northeastward from 6N156E to 12N167E then turns toward the southeast to end at 7N177E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are located near the northern Marshall Islands and Majuro within 115 miles of a line from 13N160E to 14N169E to 5N175E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:03 AM	6:38 PM
Wednesday	6:03 AM	6:38 PM
Thursday	6:03 AM	6:37 PM
Friday	6:03 AM	6:36 PM
Saturday	6:04 AM	6:36 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	12:39 AM	1:45 PM
Wednesday	1:28 AM	2:35 PM
Thursday	2:17 AM	3:23 PM
Friday	3:06 AM	4:08 PM
Saturday	3:55 AM	4:51 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 28, 2014

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3	UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7	UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	2:30pm	4:10pm	6, 7 via Rota	UA5039	1:10pm	2:00pm	6, 7
UA5078	3:20pm	4:10pm	1, 5	UA5038	1:10pm	2:50pm	2, 4 via Rota
UA5038	3:20pm	4:10pm	2, 4	UA5077	2:00pm	2:50pm	1, 5
UA5040	7:05pm	7:55pm	1, 5	UA5041	5:45pm	6:35pm	1, 5
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7	UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5044	10:50pm	11:40pm	1, 5	UA5043	9:30pm	10:20pm	1, 5
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5039	2:30pm	3:05pm	6, 7	UA5038	1:10pm	1:45pm	2, 4
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA5039	3:35pm	4:10pm	6, 7	UA5038	2:15pm	2:50pm	2, 4
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)				PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:05am	11:15pm	2, 4, 6 via NRT	DL298	4:30am	3:00pm	3, 5, 7 via NRT
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:05am	8:35am	1, 4, 5, 6	DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily	DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	3, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1	OZ603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily	OZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
MU7076	4:15am	6:50am	2, 6	MU7075	9:00pm	3:15am+1	1, 5
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764A	3:30am	7:30am	4, 7	MU763A	7:25pm	2:30am+1	3, 6
MU764	4:00am	8:00am	1, 5	MU763	7:55pm	3:00am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	OZ704/603	12:10am	2:20pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	DL172/288	7:55am	1:25am+1	3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	3, 6, 7 via GUM	UA190/5077	9:55am	8:05pm	3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM	OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
DL287/473	6:05am	9:45pm	1, 4, 5, 6 via NRT	UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:10pm	3 via GUM	UA184/5039	10:25pm	2:00pm+1	6 via GUM
UA5039/183	2:30pm	9:10pm	6, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA184/5038	10:25pm	2:50pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
UA5038/183	3:20pm	8:45pm	2 via GUM	UA184/5077	10:25pm	2:50pm+1	4, 7 via GUM-Rota
UA5078/183	3:20pm	8:45pm	5 via GUM	UA184/5041	10:25pm	6:35pm+1	4, 7 via GUM-Rota
UA5078/183	3:20pm	9:10pm	1 via GUM	UA184/5077	10:25pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 6 via GUM
UA5038/183	3:20pm	9:10pm	4 via GUM	UA184/5043	10:25pm	10:20pm+1	4, 7 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN	UA184/5071	11:30pm	7:30am+1	2 via GUM
				UA184/5071	11:30pm	8:05am+1	5 via GUM
				UA184/5039	11:30pm	2:00pm+1	5 via GUM
				UA184/5077	11:30pm	8:05pm+1	2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA5068/179	8:00am	9:55pm	3 via GUM	OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA5068/179	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM	D28008	6:05pm	1:20am+1	Aug 5, 10, 14, 19, 24, 28
D2 8009	12:50pm	4:05pm	Aug 5, 10, 14, 19, 24, 28	UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA5039/179	2:30pm	9:55pm	6 via Rota-GUM	UA180/5039	9:55pm	2:00pm+1	5, 6 via GUM
UA5078/179	3:20pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via GUM	UA180/5038	9:55pm	2:50pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
OZ604/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN	UA180/5077	9:55pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air; D: Dynamic Airways; ORB: OREN AIR; D2: Dynamic Air

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

COTA partners with OVR for service agreement

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority has entered into a service agreement with the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation for transportation services to OVR.

Joined by State Rehabilitation Council chairman Isidro K. Seman, OVR director Arlene A. Yamagata, and COTA's administrator Thomas J. Camacho, a

memorandum of understanding was signed on Aug. 5.

The memorandum states that OVR customers have transportation challenges that affect their abilities to avail of OVR's programs such as training and working activities, therefore, OVR sought independent services, transportation services, and other related services through COTA.

"Currently, under the agreement, COTA is providing trans-

portation services to at least 14 OVR clients," Camacho said.

According to Camacho, COTA has been serving qualified riders with disabilities and the elderly, that paid \$3 per ride or one way, but as of Dec. 2013, COTA expanded its services picking up the fee to \$5, that allows the riders to go further areas since COTA's expansion, which OVR could avail for from the transit authority.

"One of the reason OVR chose COTA as its preferred transportation provider is that they are trained in accordance to the Community Transportation Association of America Passenger Service and Safety Certification, Sensitivity, CPR and etc," Yamagata said.

"COTA is also fully insured and for that, we are at ease that our clients are taken care of and safe," she added.

The forging of the agreement

will improve the quality of life of the residents of the CNMI particularly OVR clients on connecting with the community.

OVR will be paying COTA for services and coordinate and the memorandum will continue as long as OVR clients continue or need transportation and COTA is available.

"By signing the agreement, COTA and OVR, is in line with the OVR mission of promoting employment of qualified indi-

viduals with disabilities," Yamagata said.

Camacho said that the signing is also a clear indication that the demand for transportation is growing.

"To meet these demands, COTA is currently in the process of procuring additional accessible full size passenger vehicles that will be added on to the Call-a-Ride services fleet as well as replace older vehicles," he said.

NMCB-133 takes charge of Camp Covington

SANTA RITA, Guam—Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 1 turned over duties to NMCB-133 during a change of charge ceremony at Camp Covington on U.S. Naval Base Guam Aug. 15.

Capt. James Meyer, commodore of 30th Naval Construction Regiment, served as the keynote speaker during the ceremony and commended NMCB-1 for an outstanding deployment.

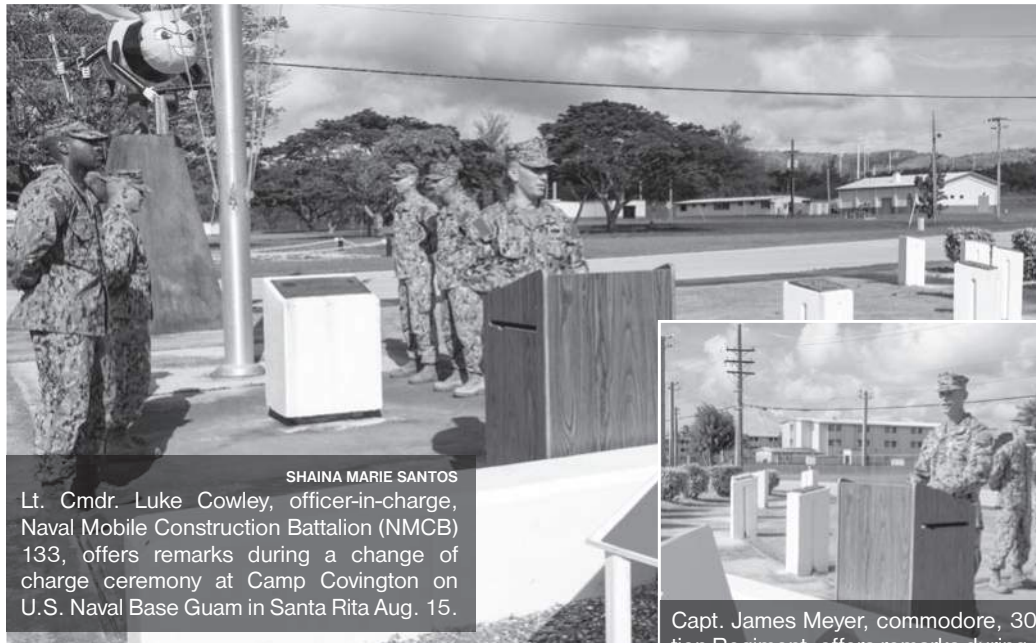
"Without a doubt, your work here on Guam and your support of the Pacific region have been critical in supporting our nation's strategic interests," he said. "Your work has built upon our rich Seabee legacy and you should all reflect on that and be proud of what you have accomplished."

Lt. Travis Brinkman, officer-in-charge of NMCB-1, said he is incredibly proud of the accomplishments they made during their deployment to Guam.

"We started off with a team of 60 that came to maintain and own a camp that was built for 600 personnel, a very challenging task," he said. "Even mid-deployment, when we received a supplemental force, it still really gave us the opportunity to just start digging in. (It) really makes us ready to support in the defense of the region and take care of the big Navy's mission abroad. (I'm) going home very proud."

Brinkman said he was appreciative of the invaluable training his team received during their deployment to Guam that improved upon their mission readiness.

"Deploying here to Camp Covington is a tremendous asset to us," he said. "We spend homeport honing our skills, learning new ones and advancing our training, but it's not until you come forward and deploy to locations such as this that we have the opportunity to execute the lessons we've learned. Through coming here, executing the mission, getting our hands on the equipment and getting familiar with it, honing our construction skills and really executing solid tasking and good work both for Naval Base Guam as well as PACOM (Pacific Command) in general really sets us



SHAINA MARIE SANTOS
Lt. Cmdr. Luke Cowley, officer-in-charge, Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 133, offers remarks during a change of charge ceremony at Camp Covington on U.S. Naval Base Guam in Santa Rita Aug. 15.



SHAINA MARIE SANTOS
Capt. James Meyer, commodore, 30th Naval Construction Regiment, offers remarks during a change of charge ceremony at Camp Covington on U.S. Naval Base Guam in Santa Rita Aug. 15.



SHAINA MARIE SANTOS
Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 133 raises their flag during a change of charge ceremony at Camp Covington. During the ceremony, NMCB 1 turned over duties to NMCB 133.

up for success when the bell calls and we have to move forward in support of other operations."

Lt. Cmdr. Luke Cowley, officer-in-charge of NMCB-

133, said his team is looking forward to working on numerous projects and improving upon their skills while on island.

"Me and NMCB-133 are

very excited to be here and grateful for the opportunity to serve here on Guam and to

continue the legacy the Seabees have here," he said. NMCB-1 returns home to

the Naval Construction Battalion Center in Gulfport, Miss. (PR)

Sailors help prepare local elementary school for new SY

SANTA RITA, Guam—Sailors from U.S. Naval Base Guam and its tenant commands helped prepare Marcial A. Sablan Elementary School to welcome students to the new school year Aug. 16.

To help prepare the campus, Sailors prepared pamphlets, painted benches, curbs and parking lots, bush cut grass, swept walkways, and removed debris from the school grounds.

Capt. Andy Anderson, commanding officer, U.S. Naval Base Guam, volunteered at the Agat school with his family and emphasized the importance for Sailors to be out in the community.

"In the military, what our job is really, is community service," he said. "That's what the military is all about. It's about servicing people and taking care of humanity. What better place is there to do that than here at Marcial A. Sablan Elementary."

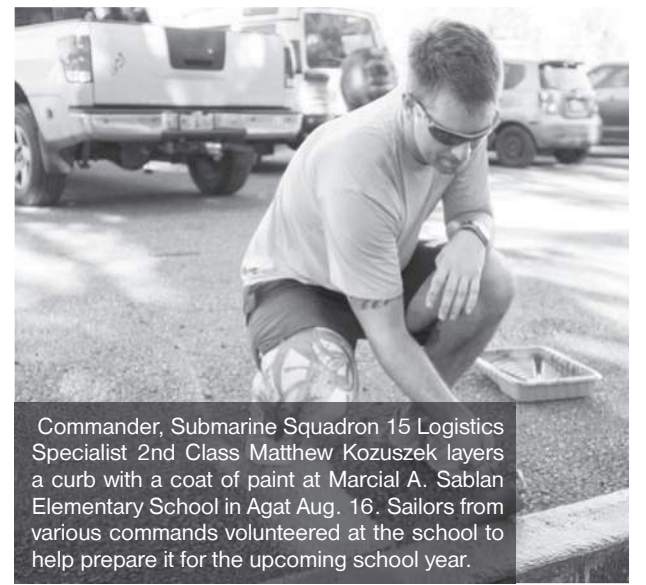
Coastal Riverine Group 1 Det. Guam Master-at-Arms Ashley Byrd echoed Anderson's remarks and said she enjoyed the opportunity to help make a difference for youth on Guam.

"It's important for Sailors to give back to the community because we're not just Sailors, we're people as well," she said. "We care about what goes on in

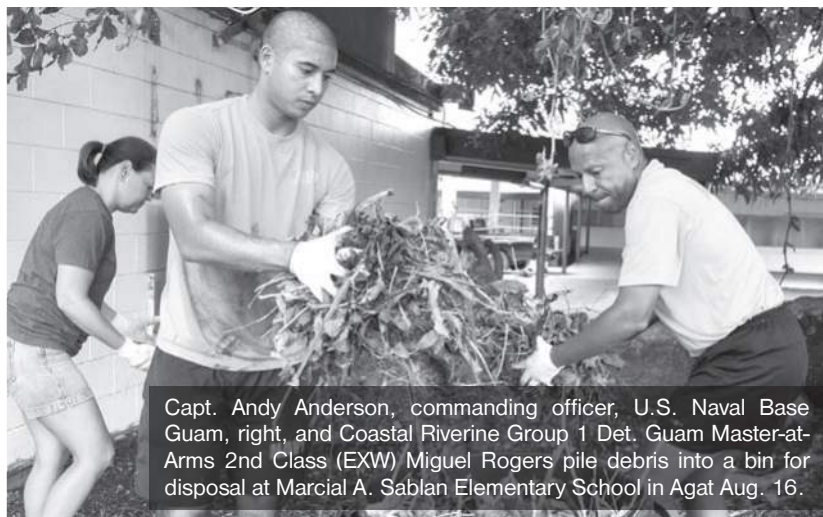
our community, whether it's in our home states or where we are serving at the moment."

Acting Principal Geraldine Pablo said she was especially thankful for all the Navy volunteers' efforts.

"I just feel it's so awesome that the military is fostering volunteerism and helping the school community and becoming a part of the community at large on island," she said. "We'd like to thank the military for participating, and in particular the Navy, for assisting our school and the school community in preparing for the new school year." (PR)



Commander, Submarine Squadron 15 Logistics Specialist 2nd Class Matthew Kozuszek layers a curb with a coat of paint at Marcial A. Sablan Elementary School in Agat Aug. 16. Sailors from various commands volunteered at the school to help prepare it for the upcoming school year.



Capt. Andy Anderson, commanding officer, U.S. Naval Base Guam, right, and Coastal Riverine Group 1 Det. Guam Master-at-Arms 2nd Class (EXW) Miguel Rogers pile debris into a bin for disposal at Marcial A. Sablan Elementary School in Agat Aug. 16.



Sailors from various commands on U.S. Naval Base Guam volunteer at Marcial A. Sablan Elementary School in Agat Aug. 16 in preparation for the upcoming school year.

U.S. NAVY PHOTO BY SHAINA MARIE SANTOS

Business

Haves, have-nots divided by apartment poor doors

NEW YORK (AP)—One new Manhattan skyscraper will greet residents of pricey condos with a lobby in front, while renters of affordable apartments that got the developer government incentives must use a separate side entrance—a so-called poor door.

In another apartment house, rent-regulated residents can't even pay to use a new gym that's free to their market-rate neighbors. Other buildings have added playrooms and roof decks off-limits to rent-stabilized tenants.

New York is a city where the rich and relatively poor have long lived side by side, with who pays what often a closely held, widely varying secret. But a recent spate of buildings with separate amenities for the haves and have-nots is hurling that question out in the open, provoking an uncomfortable debate over equality, economics and the tightness of the social fabric.

"Nobody treats me like a second-class citizen in my own home," says Jean Green Dorsey, who filed a complaint with the city Human Rights Commission this spring over her Manhattan building's fitness center. She and fellow rent-stabilized tenants aren't allowed to enter it despite a willingness to pay a fee; market-rate renters use it gratis.

Developers say they're motivated by business, not bias, and



In this Aug. 5, 2014 photo, Jean Green Dorsey walks outside the building on New York City's Upper West Side where she has lived since 1972.

reserving some prime features for higher-paying residents is the price of having affordable housing in hot neighborhoods.

But officials are broaching proposals to force more inclusiveness, troubled by seeing landlords use affordable-housing tax and zoning breaks to create what critics view as a caste system.

In a city where Mayor Bill de Blasio was elected last year on pledges to increase affordable housing and shrink income inequality, an outcry erupted

after his housing department signed off last month on the affordable bona fides of the Manhattan poor door building; the project was approved and started construction before de Blasio took office. Its creator, Extell Development Co., declined to comment.

"We believe there should be a much more equal approach to all residents," said de Blasio, who as a councilman voted for the 2009 zoning code change that allowed such arrangements but says the "nuances" of differ-

ent doors weren't evident then.

His administration is taking a sweeping look at affordable housing programs. Meanwhile, Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer and other officials are clamoring to change the zoning code to end separate-door layouts. State Assemblywoman Linda Rosenthal wants to require landlords to offer amenities to all tenants, with provisions for reasonable fees. Councilmen Mark Levine and Corey Johnson are also drafting a proposal to add "class of

renter" to the city's antidiscrimination laws.

To critics, treating rent-regulated residents differently sends a galling separate-and-unequal message. But developers say there can be financial and legal reasons for some separation.

Green Dorsey's landlord, Stonehenge Partners Inc., has said in a rights-commission filing that its gym policy is "an inducement to rent" market-rate apartments, noting that stabilized tenants get valuable plums

of their own—like lower rent.

And fairly or not, apartment hunters may hesitate to buy an expensive place on the same floor as renters who don't have the same legal obligations, or means, to contribute to a building's ongoing expenses, said Steven Spinola, president of the Real Estate Board of New York, a major developers' and landlords' group. Even if doors are different, such buildings make for a mixed-income block, he noted.

Painful waiting game with job recruiter

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By MARIE G. MCINTYRE
McClatchy-Tribune News Service



Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of *Secrets to Winning at Office Politics*. Send in questions and get free coaching tips at <http://www.yourofficecoach.com>, or follow her on Twitter @officecoach.

Q: I do not understand how recruiters can be so thoughtless. After a networking contact gave my resume to a recruiter for a large local company, I received an email expressing interest in my background and suggesting possible times for a phone interview.

I responded immediately and accepted one of the appointment times. Having received no reply by the following day, I left a voice mail repeating this information. Four days later, my interview has still not been confirmed. So what should I do now?

A: You have unfortunately encountered a recruiter who is either inept, overwhelmed or inconsiderate. It's true that many staffing departments are so inundated with applicants that they no longer respond to everyone. Once an interview has been requested, however, failing to follow through is extremely rude.

Before you abandon hope, remember that time passes much more slowly for applicants than for those doing the hiring. While you are checking your inbox on an hourly basis, this recruiter may be distracted by a multitude of management requests or an unexpected change in plans. So a reply could still be forthcoming.

Having left one follow-up voice mail, you must now wait for a while. After a week, if you have still heard nothing, send a polite email inquiring about the status of your interview. But if that also produces no response, you can probably assume that this particular opportunity is no longer available.

Q: I was recently shocked to learn that a relatively new employee has been promoted into

a job equivalent to mine. It took me 20 years to rise to this level, while "Mike" just joined our company three years ago. I know for a fact that he is incapable of handling the responsibilities of this position.

When Mike applied for promotion, my boss assured me that his lack of experience would disqualify him before the interview stage. I have since been told that some policy exceptions were made to allow him to interview, which seems highly unethical.

As peers, Mike and I will be expected to collaborate on a regular basis. Since I know he isn't qualified, I can't imagine asking for his advice or assistance. How should I handle this?

A: To avoid damaging your own career, you will need to adjust your attitude. While you may believe that Mike's promotion was a mistake, someone in upper management obviously has a different view. Making your displeasure known will not only insult Mike, but also offend his higher-level sponsor.

As a long-term employee, you may not realize that Mike's lack of tenure could actually be a strength. People with "fresh eyes" are frequently able to spot unrecognized problems and suggest new approaches. If Mike's superiors are unhappy with the status quo, they may be expecting him to stimulate change.

At this point, you should swallow your resentment and try to act like a welcoming colleague. If Mike succeeds, he could become a helpful ally. But if he turns out to be a dud, you will have the quiet satisfaction of knowing you were right.

Atlantic City fears closing casinos may be eyesore

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP)—Before summer ends, Revel, Trump Plaza, the Showboat and the Atlantic Club will be shuttered ex-casinos, leaving Atlantic City officials looking for a way to avoid having dark, empty shells on its signature Boardwalk.

Analysts and entrepreneurs tell The Associated Press that a glitzy corporate headquarters, condos or timeshares, entertainment-related rentals or even student housing could be among the new uses for them.

Israel Posner, head of a gambling study institute at Richard Stockton College, said it's crucial to keep the buildings occupied and illuminated.

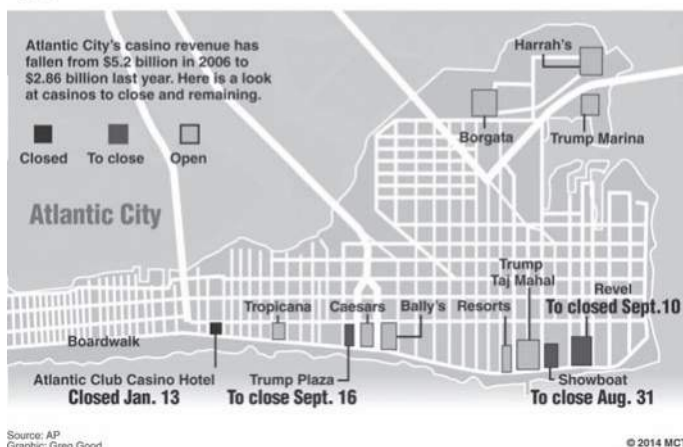
"If you rely on tourism, you want bright lights," he said. "All the promotional shots of Las Vegas are at night with the lights on. Darkness is almost the antithesis of entertainment."

Posner envisions Revel succeeding as a top-flight corporate center, possibly with a mix of retail and residential uses. The building, with a slanted roof and giant ball on top, "is the most interesting structure that was built in the Eastern U.S. in the last decade," he said.

Revel is still talking with potential buyers, hoping to sell the

Fourth casino to close this year in Atlantic City

Atlantic City's newest casino is shutting its doors just over two years after opening. Revel Casino Hotel will shut down next month after failing to find a buyer in bankruptcy court, company. The company said the \$2.4 billion casino will close its doors on Sept. 10. The closure will mean the loss of more than 3,100 jobs.



Source: AP
Graphic: Greg Good

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property even after the casino shuts its hotel on Sept. 1 and its casino the next morning.

The Showboat could work for someone who resurrects its House of Blues nightclub and concert space to create entertainment-themed rental units, Posner said. But Trump Plaza may need to be razed.

"The land may be worth more than the building that's on it," he said. "With the success of the Walk's shopping nearby, you might extend that shopping corridor right down to the Boardwalk."

Once the casinos close, they will still have to be maintained,

the grass cut and grounds kept clean, just like any vacant home or storefront. Since its Jan. 13 closing, the Atlantic Club has been mostly dark, except for a few external lights and blinkers that act as warnings to airplanes.

A Florida real estate firm, TJM Properties, has already bought two former casino buildings from Caesars Entertainment: the former Claridge Casino Hotel, which most recently was part of Bally's, and the Atlantic Club. The company is running the Claridge as a smaller-scale, non-casino hotel and might do the same with The Atlantic Club.

Nation

More charges
planned against
Amish-kidnap
suspects

CANTON, N.Y. (AP)—More charges are expected soon against a northern New York couple accused of kidnapping two young Amish sisters and sexually abusing them, a prosecutor said Sunday.

Computer hard drives and other potential evidence are still being collected Sunday from the home of Stephen Howells Jr. and Nicole Vaisey, said Mary Rain, district attorney for St. Lawrence County.

The pair was arrested Friday and charged with kidnapping with the intent to physically or sexually abuse the 7-year-old and 12-year-old sisters. Authorities say the couple prowled for easy targets and sexually abused the girls before letting them go after about 24 hours.

Howells, 39, and Vaisey, 25, are being held without bail and have a preliminary court appearance scheduled for Thursday.

"I 100 percent expect more charges," Rain told The Associated Press in a telephone interview. She said the new charges, which she would not detail, could come after she meets with police investigators Monday or at the hearing Thursday. It's also possible prosecutors would have to wait for results from forensic tests.

The sisters were abducted Wednesday from a farm stand in front of the family's home in Oswegatchie, near the Canadian border. They were set free by their captors about 24 hours later and turned up safe at the door of a house 15 miles from where they were taken.

There was no answer Sunday at the St. Lawrence County Conflict Defender's Office, which is representing Howells.

Vaisey's lawyer, Bradford Riendeau told The New York Times that she was in an abusive and submissive relationship with Howells. He said she made a "voluntary statement" to investigators after her arrest and was obtaining an order of protection against him.

"She appears to have been the slave and he was the master," Riendeau told the newspaper.

Rain said Vaisey is just as culpable as Howells.

St. Lawrence County Sheriff Kevin Wells said the girls were able to provide details to investigators about their time in captivity.

The Associated Press generally does not identify victims of sexual abuse and is not naming the girls.

Police shooting draws protesters from near, far

FERGUSON, Mo. (AP)—Protesters who have for days lined a busy suburban St. Louis street not far from the place where a white police officer fatally shot an unarmed black teenager have walked from nearby apartments, driven from neighboring communities and flown in from states hundreds of miles away. Some are young parents carrying infants. Others, college students. Retirees. Professionals taking a break from their jobs.

They have chanted, marched, shouted, danced on vehicles and—though most have remained peaceful—also looted and vandalized stores during late-night clashes with armored police who have fired smoke canisters and tear gas into the crowds.

The demonstrators are demanding justice for 18-year-old Michael Brown, which they say can only be accomplished if Ferguson police officer Darren Wilson is charged and convicted for the shooting. Many also cite larger causes.

Some vent frustration about what they describe as a pattern of harassment and intimidation of black residents by police—not just in Ferguson, but in numerous other predominantly low-income minority communities. Others see an opportunity to participate in what they consider a modern civil rights movement.

"Being black in America is basically being born with a target," said Keyon Watkins, a 26-year-old college graduate with a computer science degree who joined in the protests on a late weekend night. "All of this is just built-up, pent-up aggression by being mistreated on a daily basis."

As Watkins stood on the curb of West Florissant Avenue, a parade of vehicles slowly passed by—some with teenagers dancing atop the hoods, some blaring music profaning police, many honking their horns in what has become a sounding call for the protest.

On another night, the rap musician Stackz drove up in a new white Corvette, parked it in the street and joined in the protest. Though he now lives in Atlanta, he grew up in the neighborhood.

"This happened right in my area. It was a must to be here," said Stackz, who said his real name was Demarco Williams.

Police say Brown had been walking with a friend down nearby Canfield Drive when Wilson stopped them because they were in the middle of the street. They say a scuffle ensued, Wilson was injured and Brown was shot. Witnesses say the teenager had his hands in the air as Wilson fired multiple rounds.

So the protesters chant "Hands up! Don't shoot!" while raising their own arms. They write the words on posters, and print them on T-shirts.

Some of the protesters said they previously had been shot by police, or know relatives and friends who had been. Michael Johnson, 42, lifted up his shirt to show the scars on his torso that he said he received when he was shot by a St. Louis police officer at age 18, during a confrontation that he said never resulted in charges against him or the officer. Because of the injuries, he said, he had to abandon his dream of joining the Marines.

"That one night cost me my whole future," said Johnson, standing in front of a looted and burnt-out convenience store. "If

Police gear from the armed forces

More than 8,000 law enforcement agencies all over the U.S. acquire surplus gear from the Department of Defense.

Gear provided

- Clothing
- Office equipment
- Computers
- Digital cameras
- Blankets and sleeping bags
- Night vision goggles
- Weapons
- Tactical vehicles

Example of vehicles

Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicle



Designed for use in Iraq and Afghanistan to withstand explosive blasts. Around 24,000 MRAPs were deployed in the two conflicts.

Source: Defense Logistics Agency, Army, Marine Corps
Graphic: Tyler Davis, Erik Rodriguez

Most commonly supplied weapons

M16A2 rifle



Standard-issue military rifle. Fires three-round burst or single shots. Law enforcement also has access to military scopes and silencers. Agencies are allowed a maximum of one M16 per officer.

M14 rifle



Vietnam War-era military rifle. Agencies are allowed one M14 for every two officers.

M1911 pistol



The U.S. military's standard-issue sidearm from 1911-1985. Agencies are allowed one per officer.

© 2014 MCT

I got to die tonight, I don't mind ... I'm dying for a cause."

There have been no reports of protesters dying in their clashes

with police.

After several tumultuous nights, police tried to change their tactics. State Highway

Patrol Capt. Ron Johnson took command of security from local authorities and walked the streets side-by-side with the protesters. So did celebrity civil rights activists, including the Rev. Jesse Jackson, who had marched with the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

The festive atmosphere lasted only one night, and protests again turned violent during the weekend, prompting Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon to declare a state of emergency and impose a midnight-to-5 a.m. curfew in Ferguson. Some who defied the curfew clashed again with police early Sunday, but Johnson again encouraged peaceful demonstrations for the nights to come.

LaVon Stennis-Williams flew in from Omaha, Nebraska, to join the protest with her daughter who is attending law school at Saint Louis University. Stennis-Williams, 52, wanted to experience the civil rights movement that she had heard about as a child in the 1960s.

"I felt like it was an obligation to come here and be a part of this," she said. "Maybe this will be a catalyst of change in this country to get people to become more tolerant and more respectful of their civil rights."

Federal autopsy ordered in Missouri teen's death

FERGUSON, Mo. (AP)—Attorney General Eric Holder on Sunday ordered a federal medical examiner to perform another autopsy on a black Missouri teenager whose fatal shooting by a white police officer has spurred a week of rancorous and sometimes-violent protests in suburban St. Louis.

The "extraordinary circumstances" surrounding the death of 18-year-old Michael Brown and a request by Brown's family members prompted the order, Department of Justice spokesman Brian Fallon said in a statement.

"This independent examination will take place as soon as possible," Fallon said. "Even after it is complete, Justice Department officials still plan to take the state-performed autopsy

into account in the course of their investigation."

As night fell Sunday in Ferguson, another peaceful protest quickly deteriorated after marchers pushed toward one end of a street. Police attempted to push them back by firing tear gas and shouting over a bullhorn that the protest was no longer peaceful.

The Justice Department already had deepened its civil rights investigation into the shooting. A day earlier, officials said 40 FBI agents were going door-to-door gathering information in the Ferguson neighborhood where Brown, who was unarmed, was shot to death Aug. 9 in the street.

A federally conducted autopsy "more closely focused on entry point of projectiles,

defensive wounds and bruises" might help that investigation, said David Weinstein, a former federal prosecutor who supervised the criminal civil rights section of Miami's U.S. attorney's office. The move is "not that unusual," he added.

Federal authorities also want to calm any public fears that no action will be taken on the case, Weinstein said.

President Barack Obama, who has been getting regular updates on the situation in Ferguson while on vacation, was to be briefed by Holder sometime after returning Sunday to the White House.

Back in Ferguson, the latest clashes erupted three hours before the midnight curfew imposed by Gov. Jay Nixon.

Police in riot gear ordered

all the protesters to disperse. Many of the marchers retreated, but a group of about 100 stood defiantly about two blocks away until getting hit by another volley of tear gas.

Protesters had laid a line of cinder blocks across the pavement near the QuikTrip convenience store that was burned down last week. It was an apparent attempt to block police vehicles, but the vehicles plowed through with ease. Someone set a nearby trash bin on fire, and gunshots rang out several blocks away.

Earlier in the day, Missouri State Highway Patrol Capt. Ron Johnson said he had met members of Brown's family and the experience "brought tears to my eyes and shame to my heart."



ACROSS THE NATION

Trial of Texas father raises legal, moral issues

ANGLETON, Texas (AP)—David Barajas denies killing a drunk driver in a fit of rage after his two sons were fatally struck in 2012 on a rural road in Southeast Texas. His defense attorney says Barajas is a good man, a grieving father and not a murderer. At the same time, his defense hasn't publicly suggested who else might be responsible for Jose Banda's shooting death. Barajas' trial is set to begin Monday in a case with many complexities: No weapon was recovered, no witnesses identified him as the shooter and many in Barajas' com-

munity have strongly sympathized with him, with some saying they might have taken the law into their own hands if faced with a similar situation. Legal experts acknowledge prosecutors could face a greater challenge than simply proving who committed the shooting, similar to another Texas case from 2012 in which a grand jury declined to indict a father who killed a man who molested his child.

Woman who sneaked on plane gets early jail release

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A stowaway who was re-

cently ordered to spend 117 days in jail for violating probation by returning to Los Angeles International Airport served a fraction of her sentence when she was released Saturday because of overcrowding. Marilyn Jean Hartman, 62, was released from the Century Regional Detention Facility in Lynwood, California, shortly after 6 p.m., according to jail records. She was released because of jail overcrowding and a state program that credits nonviolent misdemeanor offenders such as Hartman for good behavior, time served and other circumstances, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputy Crystal Hernandez said.

Asia

Pope leaves South Korea after urging peace

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Pope Francis wrapped up his first trip to Asia on Monday by challenging Koreans—from the North and the South—to reject the “mindset of suspicion and confrontation” that clouds their relations and find new ways to forge peace on the war-divided peninsula.

Before boarding a plane back to Rome, the pope held a Mass of reconciliation at Seoul’s main cathedral, attended by South Korean President Park Geun-hye as well as some North Korean defectors. It was the final event of a five-day trip that confirmed the importance of Asia for this papacy and for the Catholic Church as a whole, given the church is young and growing here whereas it is withering in traditionally Christian lands in Europe.

Francis’ plea for peace came as the United States and South Korea started a joint military drill that North Korea warned would result in a “merciless pre-emptive strike” against the allies.

In a poignant moment at the start of the Mass on Monday, Francis bent down and greeted

seven women, many sitting in wheelchairs, who were forced into sexual slavery by the Japanese military during World War II. One gave him a pin of a butterfly—a symbol of these “comfort women’s” plight—which he immediately pinned to his vestments and wore throughout the Mass.

Francis said in his homily that reconciliation can be brought about only by forgiveness, even if it seems “impossible, impractical and even at times repugnant.”

“Let us pray, then, for the emergence of new opportunities for dialogue, encounter and the resolution of differences, for continued generosity in providing humanitarian assistance to those in need, and for an ever greater recognition that all Koreans are brothers and sisters, members of one family, one people,” he said.

During his trip the pope reached out to China, North Korea and a host of other countries that have no relations with the Holy See.

The pope will visit the Philippines in January, along with Sri Lanka. In Seoul on Monday,



AP
Pope Francis, right, talks with Seo Jeong-gi, second from right, head of Sungkyunkwan Association for Confucianism in Korea, as he meets with South Korea's religious leaders at Myeong-dong Cathedral in Seoul, South Korea, on Monday, Aug. 18, 2014.

Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle, the archbishop of Manila, said Francis is offering “a friendly hand to the other countries, and assuring the countries we are not here for any worldly ambition, we are not here as conquerors, we are here as brothers and sisters.”

Francis laid out these themes from the start of his visit, which was clouded by the firing of five rockets from Pyongyang into the sea. North Korea later said the test firings had nothing to do with Francis’ arrival but rather commemorated the 69th anniversary of Korea’s in-

dependence from Japanese occupation.

The U.S.-South Korean military exercises starting Monday and involving tens of thousands of troops are described by the allies as routine and defensive, but Pyongyang sees them as invasion preparation. A spokes-

man for the North Korean army’s general staff said in a statement Sunday carried by state media that a “most powerful and advanced merciless pre-emptive strike will start any time chosen by us.”

Such rhetoric is typical from the North and direct strikes by Pyongyang are rare, although attacks blamed on the North in 2010 killed 50 South Koreans.

Before the Mass, Seoul Cardinal Andrew Yeom Soo-jung dedicated a “crown of thorns” to the pope made from barbed wire taken from the heavily fortified demilitarized zone separating the two Koreas. “Ut unum sint” reads the inscription “That they may be one”—a phrase usually invoked when praying for unity among Catholics, Orthodox and other Christians but given an entirely new meaning in the Korean context.

Tens of thousands stage Hong Kong pro-govt rally

HONG KONG (AP)—Tens of thousands of people, many wearing red as a sign of their patriotism to China, took part in a demonstration march in Hong Kong on Sunday to protest a planned civil disobedience campaign by pro-democracy activists in the city.

Demonstrators braved wilting heat to participate in the rally, which was organized by a pro-Beijing group. Many carried banners or shouted slogans saying they wanted to “oppose” the Occupy Central with Love and Peace pro-democracy movement, while others waved Chinese flags. Some, however, seemed to be not quite certain what they were protesting.

Occupy Central’s organizers have sparked political turmoil in Hong Kong and unease in Beijing with their plan to rally at least 10,000 people to freeze the specially administered Chinese financial hub’s central business district if the government fails to come up with satisfactory democratic reforms.

After the former British colony came back under Chinese control in 1997, it was allowed to keep a high degree of autonomy over its own affairs and Western-style civil liberties unseen on the mainland, although an elite pro-Beijing committee picks the city’s leader. Beijing has promised that starting in

2017, Hong Kong voters can choose the leader, but insists candidates be vetted by the committee, which democracy activists reject.

“Occupy Central is an extreme way of protest,” said Terence Chung, a company manager who joined Sunday’s march. “Using legal ways to express opinions is all right. If it comes to an irrational protest, social order will be disrupted.”

The Alliance for Peace and Democracy held the rally to cap its monthlong anti-Occupy petition campaign. But tactics used to mobilize supporters raised questions about whether demonstrators knew why exactly

they were marching.

Pro-establishment trade unions or professional groups, for example, urged members to join. People who recently moved to Hong Kong from mainland China were also offered cheap day tours of the city, with stops that included lunch, a museum visit and the anti-Occupy march, according to local news reports.

“I don’t understand what Occupy Central is for,” said a 54-year-old construction worker, who gave only his surname, Siu, and turned out with his daughter. When asked why he joined the rally, he would only say that it was because he had some free time.

Elderly ex-sex slaves want solace, help from pope

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Lee Yong-soo hopes a meeting Monday with Pope Francis will provide some solace for the pain that still feels fresh more than seven decades after Japanese soldiers forced her into prostitution during World War II.

Lee, 86, and a group of other elderly former “comfort women” will sit in the front row during the last Mass of the pope’s five-day trip to South Korea. Francis cannot solve a long-running grievance that has become a major hurdle to better ties between neighbors and U.S. allies Japan and South Korea, but the women are looking for greater global attention as they push Japan for a new apology and compensation. They also want a chance to share with the pope their feelings on the brutality they suffered as girls.

“If we do get a chance to speak with him, I want to cling to him in tears and ask him to help us resolve our pain,” Lee, a devout Catholic who was 15 when forced into sexual slavery, said by telephone. “I want to ask him to help us end this problem in a peaceful way.”

Time is running out. Only 55 of the 238 women registered as official victims of sexual slavery survive, according

to Seoul’s Ministry of Gender Equality and Family website. Their average age is 88. Two have died this year.

Lee and other victims regularly speak to the media about their grievances against Japan, and some of the women give public testimony in Japan and the United States and take part in protests. A weekly demonstration in their honor has been held in Seoul for more than 20 years.

The women plan to give the pope a copy of a painting of a young woman in traditional Korean clothes who represents victims who have died.

The Vatican spokesman, the Rev. Federico Lombardi, suggested the pope might meet the women privately, something Francis did with relatives of the victims of a South Korean ferry sinking. It’s unlikely that Francis will offer anything more than words of prayer and solidarity. Lombardi has previously said it’s not Francis’ place to intervene in political disputes but, instead, to offer pastoral care and comfort.

Various historians estimate that 20,000 to 200,000 women from across Asia, many of them Koreans, were forced into Japan’s military brothel system during the war.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Thailand ranks No. 1 in beachfront hotels

BANGKOK (AP)—Experiencing a dramatic surge in tourism, Thailand has surpassed the United States in the number of hotels truly set on its beaches, according to a survey of more than 11,000 hotels in 109 countries released Friday. The Southeast Asian country ranked first with more than 1,250 beachfront properties, followed by the United States with 1,016 and Mexico with 943. Spain, with 736, was fourth, trailed by the Philippines, Greece, Italy, Turkey, Egypt and Sri Lanka, said the survey by the Beachfront Club, a website that maps and details seaside hotels around the world. The Bangkok-based

website defines true beachfront hotels as those directly on the beach or oceanfront with no road or traffic between the rooms and the water. Thailand also ranked first for total beachfront accommodations within a single beach destination. Its Samui Island has 270, ahead of Riviera Maya in Mexico with 250, Crete with 194 and Mallorca with 187.

PH militants abduct mechanic, kill another

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Suspected Abu Sayyaf militants abducted a chief mechanic and killed his assistant, who tried to run away, in a heavily secured provincial government compound in the southern Philip-

pines, officials said Sunday. About 30 Abu Sayyaf gunmen breached a perimeter wall of the Sulu provincial government compound late Saturday and took chief mechanic Ronald Pelegrin at gunpoint from the motorpool under cover of darkness, said Senior Superintendent Abraham Orbita, who heads Sulu’s police forces. The gunmen also tried to seize Pelegrin’s deputy, Dante Avilla, but the latter resisted and was shot and killed by the militants when he tried to run away. A mobile police force unit stationed in a nearby building failed to stop the attack by the gunmen, who fled through a hole in a fence that they also used to barge into the compound, Orbita said.

Man on slashing spree in China kills 2, injures 14

BEIJING (AP)—A knife-wielding man in a northeastern Chinese city near the North Korean border went on a slashing spree Sunday, killing two people and injuring 14 others, a state broadcaster said. The attack at a shopping mall in the city of Yanji was carried out by a local Chinese man of Korean ethnicity, China Central Television, or CCTV, reported. One victim died at the scene, while another died in a hospital. Police apprehended the suspect, who was identified only by his surname, Cui, CCTV said on its official microblog site.

World

Kurdish forces retake parts of Iraq's largest dam

IRBIL, Iraq (AP)—Aided by U.S. and Iraqi airstrikes, Kurdish forces Sunday wrested back part of Iraq's largest dam from Islamic militants who had captured it less than two weeks ago, security officials said.

The U.S. began targeting fighters from the Islamic State with airstrikes Aug. 8, allowing Kurdish forces to fend off an advance on their regional capital of Irbil and to help tens of thousands of members of religious minorities escape the extremists' onslaught.

Recapturing the entire Mosul Dam and the territory surrounding its reservoir would be a significant victory against the Islamic State group, which has seized swaths of northern and western Iraq and northeastern Syria. The dam on the Tigris supplies electricity and water to a large part of the country.

The Kurdish forces, known as peshmerga, launched the operation early Sunday to retake the Mosul Dam, said Gen. Tawfik Desty, a Kurdish commander, after a day of U.S. and Iraqi airstrikes pushed back Islamic State fighters.

A spokesman for the peshmerga said the clashes were moving eastward.

"The west is in control of peshmerga. But there are some battles taking place in the (east) right now," said Hलगुरद Hekmat, peshmerga spokesman.

Another commander con-



A Kurdish peshmerga fighter prepares his weapon at his combat position near the Mosul Dam at the town of Chamibarakat outside Mosul, Iraq, Sunday, Aug. 17, 2014.

firmed the information, saying that by Sunday evening, peshmerga forces had crossed the Tigris to the broad plains held by the Islamic State.

The U.S. military conducted 14 airstrikes Sunday, damaging or destroying 10 armed vehicles, seven Humvees, two armored personnel carriers and one checkpoint, according to a statement by the Central Command. On Saturday, it carried out nine airstrikes near the dam, destroying four armored personnel car-

riers, seven armed vehicles, two Humvees and another armored vehicle, the command said.

The peshmerga, the fighting force of the largely autonomous Kurdish region of northern Iraq, surrounded the Islamic State-held city of Tel Kayf after taking the nearby town of Tel Kasouf, said the commander, who spoke on condition of anonymity in line with military regulations.

The advance of Kurdish forces was hindered by roadside bombs and buildings rigged with

Ukraine says troops entered rebel-held city

KIEV, Ukraine (AP)—Army troops have penetrated deep inside a rebel-controlled city in eastern Ukraine in what could prove a breakthrough development in the four-month-long conflict, the Ukrainian government said Sunday.

However, the military acknowledged that another one of its fighter planes was shot down by the separatists, who have been bullish about their ability to continue the battle and have bragged about receiving support from Russia. An Associated Press reporter spotted a column of several dozen heavy vehicles, including tanks and at least one rock-

et launcher, rolling through rebel-held territory on Sunday.

Talks in Berlin between the foreign ministers of Russia, Ukraine, Germany and France aimed at finding a political solution to the conflict ended without any substantial result.

Ukraine's national security council said government forces captured a district police station in Luhansk on Saturday after bitter clashes in the Velika Vergunka neighborhood.

Weeks of fighting have taken their toll on Luhansk, which city authorities say has reached the verge of a humanitarian catastrophe. The siege mounted by government forces has ground

delivery of basic provisions to a halt and cut off power and running water.

Although rebel forces have regularly yielded territory in recent weeks, they have continued to show formidable fighting capabilities.

Ukrainian military spokesman Oleksiy Dmitrashkovsky said Sunday that the separatists shot down a Ukrainian fighter plane over the Luhansk region after it launched an attack on rebels. The pilot ejected and was taken to a secure place, he said. Another military spokesman, Andriy Lysenko, later said that the status of the pilot was still being clarified.

Liberia: Ebola fears rise as clinic is looted

MONROVIA, Liberia (AP)—Liberian officials fear Ebola could soon spread through the capital's largest slum after residents raided a quarantine center for suspected patients and took items including bloody sheets and mattresses.

The violence in the West Point slum occurred late Saturday and was led by residents angry that patients were brought to the holding center from other parts of Monrovia, Tolbert Ny-

enswah, assistant health minister, said Sunday.

Up to 30 patients were staying at the center and many of them fled at the time of the raid, said Nyenswah. Once they are located they will be transferred to the Ebola center at Monrovia's largest hospital, he said.

West Point residents went on a "looting spree," stealing items from the clinic that were likely infected, said a senior police official, who insisted on ano-

nymity because he was not authorized to brief the press. The residents took medical equipment and mattresses and sheets that had bloodstains, he said. Ebola is spread through bodily fluids including blood, vomit, feces and sweat.

"All between the houses you could see people fleeing with items looted from the patients," the official said, adding that he now feared "the whole of West Point will be infected."

Palestinian divisions emerge in Gaza truce talks

CAIRO (AP)—The Palestinians appeared divided Sunday as the clock was winding down on the latest Gaza cease-fire, with officials saying Hamas was still opposed to a compromise Egyptian proposal that would ease the closure of the territory, while other factions, including delegates representing President Mahmoud Abbas, were inclined to accept.

Hamas officials said they were holding out in hopes of getting more concessions in the Egyptian-mediated talks. With a temporary truce set to expire late Monday, a range of outcomes remained possible, including a return to fighting that has brought great devastation to Gaza, an unofficial understanding that falls short of a formal negotiated deal or yet another extension in negotiations.

The negotiations are aimed at ending the latest war between Israel and Hamas-led militants in Gaza. Nearly 2,000 Palestinians have been killed—mostly civilians—and more than 10,000 people have been wounded since the war began July 8, according to United Nations figures. In Israel, 67 people have been killed, all but three of them soldiers.

The indirect talks have been going on, through Egyptian mediators, since early last week. As Palestinian and Israeli negotiators returned to Cairo on Sunday following a weekend of consultations across the Middle East, the gaps remained wide.

The current five-day cease-fire is due to end Monday night at midnight (2100 GMT).

A member of the Palestinian delegation told The Associ-

Middle East peace talks

October 1991: Palestinian and Israeli leaders meet in Madrid to begin peace talks.

Sept. 9, 1993: Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization sign the Oslo Accords, agreeing to officially recognize each other.

Oct. 23, 1998: Israel and the PLO sign the Wye Memorandum, giving more land to the Palestinians and more security to Israel.

July 25, 2000: A peace summit hosted by U.S. President Bill Clinton at Camp David ends with no agreement reached.

December 2000: Clinton proposes parameters, including a partition in Jerusalem and a transfer of most of the West Bank to the Palestinians.

2002: The U.S., U.N., EU and Russia draft a "road map for peace" that proposes looser restrictions on Palestinian territories.

April 24, 2014: Israel quits peace talks over inclusion of Hamas in the Palestinian government.

Aug. 5, 2014: Peace talks are arranged in Cairo, Egypt, after a monthlong conflict in Gaza.

Source: Chicago, Tribune, AP
Graphic: Tyler Davis © 2014 MCT

ated Press on Sunday that the gaps between the sides were still significant and that it was

explosives, planted by retreating Islamic State fighters, he said.

"They have reached inside the dam. There is no fighting, just the (roadside) bombs, and the abandoned buildings are all rigged with explosives," he said. "We will continue to advance and advance until we are given further instruction."

The commander said the evening advance occurred after the Iraqi government delivered 16 military Humvees, at least one with a mechanized bomb-disposal unit that was dismantling the roadside explosives.

Even as they advanced around the dam in northern Iraq, the commander said fighting forces were so poorly armed that he did not believe they could hold onto captured territory without a fast infusion of weapons—or continued U.S. airstrikes.

"We don't have the right weapons," he said.

far from certain whether a deal could be reached before the cease-fire expires.

"We are less optimistic than we were earlier," he said, speaking on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to discuss the talks with the media.

Hamas is demanding an end to an Israeli-Egyptian blockade on Gaza tightened when it seized power in 2007. The blockade, which Israel says is needed to prevent arms smuggling, has ground Gaza's economy to a standstill by restricting imports, limiting the movement of people in and out of the territory and blocking virtually all exports.

Israel, meanwhile, wants Gaza to be demilitarized, essentially forcing Hamas to give up its large arsenal of rockets and other weapons. Hamas rejects this demand out of hand.

Ahead of the resumption of talks late Sunday, both sides were sticking to their positions.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told his Cabinet that Hamas had suffered a huge setback in the four-week war, which would be reflected in the Cairo talks.

"If Hamas thinks its defeat on the battlefield will be papered over by a victory at the negotiating table it is mistaken," he said.

Sami Abu Zuhri, a Hamas spokesman in Gaza, directed equally tough words at Israel.

"The Israelis will only return to their homes when the resistance decides. We are not seeking an agreement because we are weak but to fulfill our people's demands," he told a rally.

Focus

ANOTHER EBOLA PROBLEM:
FINDING ITS
NATURAL
SOURCE

By MIKE STOBBE and
MARILYNN MARCHIONE
AP MEDICAL WRITERS

A scary problem lurks beyond the frenzied efforts to keep people from spreading Ebola: No one knows exactly where the virus comes from or how to stop it from seeding new outbreaks.

Ebola has caused two dozen outbreaks in Africa since it first emerged in 1976. It is coming from somewhere—probably bats—but experts agree they need to pinpoint its origins in nature.

That has had to wait until they can tame the current outbreak, which has claimed more than 1,100 lives in four countries—the worst toll from Ebola in history.

“First and foremost get the outbreak under control. Once that piece is resolved, then go back and find what the source is,” said Jonathan Towner, a scientist who helped find the bat source of another Ebola-like disease called Marburg. Towner works for the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Others say finding Ebola’s origins is more than a down-the-road scientific curiosity.

“Confirming the source would definitely be important,” said Dr. Richard Wenzel, a Virginia Commonwealth University scientist who formerly led the International Society for Infectious Diseases.

Throughout history, some of the biggest wins against infectious diseases have involved not just limiting person-to-person spread but also finding and controlling the sources in nature fueling new cases.

Plague was halted after the germ was tied to rat-riding fleas. With the respiratory disease SARS, civet cats played a role. With typhus it was lice, and with bird flu, live poultry markets. Efforts to control MERS, a virus causing sporadic outbreaks in the Middle East, include exploring the role of camels.

In the case of Ebola, health experts think the initial cases in each outbreak get it from eating or handling infected animals. They think the virus may come from certain bats, and in parts of Africa, bats are considered a delicacy.

But bats may not be the whole story or the creature that spread it to humans.

The World Health Organization lists chimpanzees, gorillas, monkeys, forest antelope and porcupines as possibly playing a role. Even pig farms may amplify infection because of fruit bats on the farms, the WHO says.

“It’s not clear what the animal is. It’s going to take a lot of testing,” said Dr. Robert Gaynes, an Emory University infectious disease specialist who worked for the CDC for more than 20 years.

Part of the puzzle is how long the virus has been in West Africa. Previous outbreaks have been in the east and central regions of the continent.

The current outbreak began in rural Guinea, and the first suspected first case was a 2-year-old child who died in Gueckedou prefecture in December, researchers wrote in the New England Journal of Medicine in April. They did not speculate on how the child may have become infected.

Some scientists think the virus has been lurking in the area for years. They point to the case of a lone scientist who



In this July 29, 2003 file photo, an Egyptian fruit bat hangs upside down in its cage at the home of Geraldine Griswold in Winsted, Conn. Scientists theorize Ebola comes from some kind of bat, mainly because of how similar it is to Marburg virus, which researchers isolated from Egyptian fruit bats in Central Africa.

got sick in 1994 after doing an autopsy on a wild chimpanzee in Ivory Coast and to a recent study that explored the possibility that past Ebola cases in the region have gone undiagnosed.

Scientists in the United States and Sierra Leone looked back at hundreds of blood samples that were sent to a testing laboratory in eastern Sierra Leone from 2006 through 2008. The

samples initially were checked only for Lassa fever, which is common in West Africa. But when the scientists recently went back and tested for other infections, they found nearly 9 percent was Ebola.

One or more types of Ebola virus have “probably been there in the mix” for some time but for some reason didn’t explode into a widespread

epidemic in West Africa until this year, said Stephen Morse, a Columbia University infectious disease expert.

Ebola’s jump from animals to people is thought to be rare. Experts say there may be a large degree of bad luck in becoming infected—in a cave associated with a Marburg outbreak, Towner found the virus in only 3 percent of bats he tested. Even if an animal source is clearly identified and people are warned, “there is always likely to be an occasional exposure—someone who drives off the highway, in essence,” Morse said.

But with other diseases, control measures have paid off.

In 2003, when civet cats were tied to SARS, “you could just see the potential for animal-to-human spread” in live animal markets where they were sold and butchered for food, and control of those markets in southern China helped limit the outbreak, said Dr. Jeffrey Koplan, an Emory University professor and former head of the CDC.

“If you can eliminate the market either by providing substitute protein sources” or outlawing the sale of that meat, “you can have an impact,” Koplan said.

That’s tough unless you can provide other food, Towner said.

“It can be a hard sell” to convince people trying to feed families to stay away from something possibly dangerous, he said.

Ebola death toll rises to 932 in west Africa

The outbreak of Ebola virus in West Africa this year is the most widespread and deadliest occurrence of the disease yet. Most recently Liberia shut down a major hospital in the capital Monrovia after a Spanish priest and six other staff members contracted Ebola.

NUMBER OF EBOLA CASES AND DEATHS as of Aug. 6

Country		New	Probable/ suspected	Confirmed	Total of confirmed and probable/suspected
A Guinea	Cases	0	144	351	363 deaths
	Deaths	5	135	228	495 cases
B Liberia	Cases	48	373	339	282 deaths
	Deaths	27	154	128	516 cases
C Nigeria	Cases	5	9	0	1 death
	Deaths	0	1	0	9 cases
D Sierra Leon	Cases	45	115	576	286 death
	Deaths	13	39	247	691 cases



Overdrive

AUTO REVIEW: 2015 Genesis marks dawn of new Hyundai era

By LARRY PRINTZ

THE VIRGINIAN-PILOT

When Hyundai unleashed the 2009 Genesis, its first upscale sedan in the United States, it possessed a typical Hyundai trait: a bargain price when compared to the competition.

That this rear-wheel-drive midsize sedan didn't quite measure up to its competitors in terms of performance or fit and finish didn't matter. The first-gen Genesis was close enough. And its bland styling made it a safe, if unexciting, choice. It was like buying a fake Louis Vuitton wallet on the streets of New York for \$10. Who would know the difference?

Since then, Hyundai's lineup has clawed its way out of the bargain bin and into the breach of style leader, thanks to its 'Fluidic Sculpture' design language that banished the brand's bland self and put the marque squarely in the mainstream with such products as the Sonata and Santa Fe.

So it's little surprise that for 2015, it's the dawn of a new Genesis, and the resulting sedan is quite possibly the best vehicle that Hyundai currently offers.

Perhaps the biggest reason for this is its styling. In era when even subcompacts can be fitted with heated leather seats, a luxury sedan must possess more than a laundry list of upscale features. This the Genesis does. Its look is particularly impressive, with sober, flowing lines that possess a grace lacking in previous large Hyundais.

That said, Hyundai has never been shy about borrowing designs from other high-end automakers, and so it goes with this new Genesis, which borrows its most distinctive styling element, its massive hexagonal grille, from Audi. It seems that old habits die hard. You can understand why when you consider that when left to their own devices, Hyundai designers tend to go for a more generic look. This explains the car's unremarkable rear view. Still, whatever raspberries you can toss at it, the Genesis has a substantial presence that the previous model lacked.

This newfound seriousness continues in the cabin, with handsome design and upgraded materials, key among them, matte-finish open-pore wood, the latest rage in car interior accents. But you'll appreciate other things that aren't as apparent, such as comfortable, supportive 12-way power heated front seats with optional ventilation. Heated rear seats are also available. Taller drivers will appreciate the driver's



NUTS & BOLTS

Powertrain: 311-horsepower 3.8-liter V6, eight-speed automatic transmission, all-wheel-drive

■ Wheelbase: 118.5 inches

■ Length: 196.5 inches

■ Cargo space: 15.3 cubic feet

■ Weight: 4,295 pounds

■ EPA rating (city/highway): 16/25 mpg

■ NHTSA safety rating: 5 stars

■ Base price, base model: \$38,000

■ Base price, test model: \$40,500

As tested: \$52,450

AP
Given that its impressive styling conveys such a substantial presence, the 2015 Hyundai Genesis is quite possibly the best vehicle that Hyundai currently offers.

seat cushion extension.

A 9.2-inch high-definition display, a 64GB Solid State Drive for multimedia, and a premium 17-speaker, 900-watt Lexicon audio system anchors the instrument panel.

More importantly, Hyundai has incorporated some high-tech features that you'll appreciate. Its second-generation Blue Link system allows Google Glass users to access Blue Link's various features. Elsewhere, the Genesis's infotainment system incorporates Apple's Siri-powered Eyes-Free to power various features. There's even a CO2 sensor.

The test vehicle supplied by Hyundai was opulently equipped thanks to three packages. The first was a \$4,000 Signature Package which included a panoramic sunroof, memory seats, front seat ventilation, auto dimming mirrors, rear sunshades, and, most importantly, blind spot detection with rear cross traffic alert. The second package was a \$3,500 Tech Package, which added lane departure warning and lane keeping assist, adaptive cruise control, emergency brake assist, electronic parking brake, parking assist and an electronic instrument cluster. The final package was the \$3,500 Ultimate Package, which includes matte wood and aluminum trim, head-up display, power trunk lid, and the afore-mentioned 9.2-inch high-def display and Lexicon audio system. In other words, the amount of luxury you get on your Genesis depends on how many options you choose.

So, while most of the luxury on this Hyundai is optional, one thing is not: a high-end driving experience.

For 2015, Hyundai redesigned its rear-wheel-drive platform to accommodate a new all-

wheel-drive system. The new platform was developed with the help of Lotus Engineering, and it shows in the Genesis's performance.

Buyers can choose between a 420-horsepower 5.0-liter V8

or a 311-horsepower 3.8-liter V6. Both engines feature double overhead cams, variable valve timing and are mated to a Hyundai-developed eight-speed automatic transmission. Rear-wheel drive is standard;

all-wheel drive is available with the V6.

Larry Printz is automotive editor at The Virginian-Pilot in Norfolk, Va. He can be reached at larry.printz@pilotonline.com.

Wrong size tire certainly not OK

By PAUL BRAND
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

Q: My co-worker had a flat left front tire on her 2002 Jeep Liberty. She had no spare, and the service station didn't have her size. They sold her a bigger tire than the other three. I told her she would have handling issues, mileage would be affected and there would be stress on the front end, differential and transmission. There's an awkward tilt of the Jeep toward the passenger side. I told her she would be at high risk for rollover. Am I right?

A: You win the good Samaritan award! Assuming her Jeep is 4WD, mounting a tire of significantly larger diameter is absolutely wrong. The difference in rolling diameter will generate considerable stress on driveshafts, differentials and the transfer case.

I don't think the "awkward tilt" of the vehicle would significantly increase the chance of a single-car rollover but it certainly won't help vehicle stability. The binding of the drivetrain may cause a reduction in fuel mileage, but the larger concern is a potential

failure in the drivetrain.

You did the right thing; now make sure she gets that tire replaced with one that is the same size and diameter as the other three. I'd be inclined to revisit the issue with the service station — they certainly should have known better.

Q: I hope you can help with my 1999 Durango 5.9 SLT with 115,000 miles. It runs fine, but at inconsistent times — winter or summer, newly started or running awhile, under load or no load or even parked — the engine begins to misfire and loses 80-90 percent of its power. No gauges or warning lights indicate a problem before or after the event.

I've been able to pull over, turn the engine off then restart it again and it runs fine just like the problem never occurred. In the last nine months the frequency of this has increased and a couple weeks ago I experienced a new event. While pulling a 2-ton trailer and slowing down for an upcoming stop sign, the engine completely died in a split second. I im-

mediately noticed the odometer did not show the typical miles numbers but it did show jumbled lines and dashes. It did not start right up, it took three tries of cranking it for an extended period and then it started and ran fine.

I have repeatedly taken it in to a reputable mechanic and the local Dodge dealer for inspections and diagnostics that turn up nothing. Might you have some guidance for me?

A: Intermittent issues can be, and often are, difficult to pinpoint even with modern on-board diagnostics built into the vehicle. Since there appear to be no DTC fault codes stored

in the computer, I'd initially focus on potential mechanical causes such as a clogged/restricted catalytic converter or exhaust system. Exhaust back pressure can build until it literally chokes the engine. When the engine stalls, the back pressure is released and the engine may well restart and run fine again — for a while. A simple exhaust back pressure test with the pressure gauge screwed into the oxygen sensor port might confirm this — there

should be less than roughly 2 psi of back pressure in the exhaust.

With the age of the vehicle, make sure the coil and ignition wires are in good shape and not generating any crossfire or grounding under load.

I can't explain the bizarre odometer display, but it may indicate some kind of electrical anomaly that caused the stall. The best bet for pinpointing something like this is to plug a data recorder (co-pilot) into the diagnostic link and drive the vehicle until another event occurs. Lock the event data into the recorder and have the shop or dealership download the data — it allows them to monitor what happened in real time, hopefully pinpointing the culprit. Good luck.

Paul Brand, author of "How to Repair Your Car," is an automotive troubleshooter, driving instructor and former race-car driver. Readers may write to him at: StarTribune, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn., 55488 or via email at paulbrand@startribune.com. Please explain the problem in detail and include a daytime phone number. Because of the volume of mail, we cannot provide personal replies.

Life & Style

'Turtles' tops weak debut for 'Expendables 3'

NEW YORK (AP)—Moviegoers continued to shell out for "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles," while Sylvester Stallone's action ensemble "The Expendables 3" was easily out-gunned in its weekend debut.

Paramount Pictures' rebooted reptiles took in \$28.4 million in the film's second weekend, according to studio estimates Sunday. That far surpassed the limp \$16.2 million earned by Stallone's gang of aged but buff warriors.

The paltry, fourth-place total for "The Expendables 3" is well below previous debuts in the Lionsgate franchise. The last

two "Expendables" opened with \$34.8 million (in August 2010) and \$28.6 million (in August 2012). The third film was the first to be rated PG-13 in the previously R-rated series, which potentially signaled watered-down explosiveness to an audience that was largely over 25, anyway.

"Expendables 3," which features a sprawling cast of Stallone, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Harrison Ford, Mel Gibson and others, also leaked online before its release, potentially damaging its impact in theaters.

Instead, Marvel's "Guardians of the Galaxy" came in second



This file image released by Paramount Pictures shows characters, from left, Raphael, Michelangelo, Leonardo, and Donatello, in a scene from "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles."

with \$24.7 million, bringing its three-week cumulative total

Michael Cera releases album he calls 'honest'

NEW YORK (AP)—Michael Cera released an indie folk album last week—quietly, in a way almost as unassuming as the actor himself.

"I would record a lot of the songs in the middle of the night just at home. I never thought anyone would ever listen to them," he said in an interview Thursday. "It's really nice that people are paying any attention to it because there's a lot of stuff to listen to."

The 26-year-old, whose TV and film credits include "Arrested Development," "Juno" and "Superbad," dropped the 18-song album, "true that," on the Bandcamp website on Aug. 8. He said he was "bored a few days ago" and decided to make a page on the website for people to check out his music.

It went largely overlooked until his acting buddy Jonah Hill tweeted a link Wednesday.

The album, which streams for free and costs \$7 to download, is made up of airy, folksy tracks, some just wordless fragments, some more fully fleshed out. Some songs are covers and others have borrowed sound, ranging from a TV reporter swearing after swallowing a bug to a piece of dialogue lifted from the 1973 film "O Lucky Man!" starring Malcolm McDowell.

"I think it has some value in that sense. It's honest. It's just an effort," Cera said, adding that he created the songs with GarageBand software. "I'm limited by many things—my abilities, my imagination and my technology."

Cera said the album's quiet launch was a nod from Beyoncé's playbook. The pop diva released her top-selling self-titled album last year without the public knowing.

"I didn't want anyone to take it seriously or think that I was taking it seriously by it being a big thing," said Cera, who sang backing vocals and played mandolin on Weezer's 2010 album, "Hurley."

"It's there now. Now people can hear the stuff I've spent time with and care about for a long time."

Cera, who is preparing to make his Broadway debut next month opposite Kieran Culkin and Tavi Gevinson in Kenneth Lonergan's play "This Is Our Youth," said making music is relaxing and fun to do with friends, but he never planned on a recording career.

"A friend of mine said to me, 'I think you're too careful with your music.' I thought that was a nice, honest criticism from a friend," he said.

"He was right."

to \$222 million for distributor Walt Disney. Along with the Nickelodeon Movies-produced "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles," the cosmic romp starring Chris Pratt has helped restore some strength to the summer box office. Sequels are already in the works for both films.

After box-office returns well off the pace of last summer, Hollywood has made a slight comeback in August, typically a dumping ground for studio leftovers. The summer overall is still running at a 15 percent deficit from last year's record-breaking season, but the gap had once been above 20 percent. August is up 14 percent on last year.

"It's called the dog days of August for a reason," said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for box-office tracker

Rentrak, "but thankfully in a summer with a lot of ups and downs, this has been a really good August."

A busy weekend slate also helped. Opening in third place was the 20th Century Fox buddy comedy "Let's Be Cops," starring Jake Johnson and Damon Wayans Jr. It took in \$17.7 million.

Also debuting was the Lois Lowry adaption "The Giver," a dystopian young-adult tale starring Jeff Bridges and Meryl Streep. The Weinstein Co. release opened with an estimated \$12.8 million.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Rentrak. Where available, latest international numbers are also included. Final domestic figures will be released on Monday.

1. "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles," \$28.4 million (\$25.6 million international).
2. "Guardians of the Galaxy," \$24.7 million (\$33.1 million international).
3. "Let's Be Cops," \$17.7 million (\$650,000 international).
4. "The Expendables 3," \$16.2 million (\$15 million international).
5. "The Giver," \$12.8 million.
6. "Into the Storm," \$7.7 million (6.7 million international).
7. "The Hundred-Foot Journey," \$7.1 million.
8. "Lucy," \$5.3 million (\$22 million international).
9. "Step Up All In," \$2.7 million (\$3 million international).
10. "Boyhood," \$2.1 million.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at international theaters (excluding the U.S. and Canada), according to Rentrak:

1. "How To Train Your Dragon 2," \$37.7 million.
2. "Guardians of the Galaxy," \$33.1 million.
3. "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles," \$25.6 million.
4. "Lucy," \$22 million.
5. "The Admiral: Roaring Currents," \$20 million.
6. "Dawn of the Planet of the Apes," \$16.5 million.
7. "The Expendables 3," \$15 million.
8. "Pirates," \$13.5 million.
9. "Transformers: Age of Extinction," \$8.4 million.
10. "The Inbetweeners Movie 2," \$7 million.

Mexico female jockeys vie for spot in horse racing

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Elisabeth Garrido stacks bales of hay into the shape of a horse, straps reins around a mock head and sets off on an imaginary but energetic ride, whipping the hay with a riding crop.

It's part of the do-it-yourself training for her dream: to be one of the few women ever to become a full-fledged jockey at Mexico's only major horse racetrack, and perhaps move north of the border as well.

"The hay is heavy but you have to be strong to ride a horse," said Garrido, who resorts to hay bales because she doesn't have a dummy horse to practice on.

The 27-year-old is one of two female apprentice jockeys now training to break into the historically male-dominated sport in Mexico, which hasn't seen a woman ride professionally since 2005.

Garrido is so committed to joining the approximately 200 registered jockeys here who are skilled enough to ride a half-ton thoroughbred at 55 mph that she moved in to the Hippodrome of the Americas in Mexico City.

Home is a dank and dim storage locker in the back of a stable where she has a small bed covered by a red and white

blanket. On a shelf are photos of family and the horses she grew up riding on a ranch in nearby Puebla state.

Garrido's day starts at 5 a.m. when she and hundreds of other workers begin to gallop, wash and feed the 1,400 thoroughbreds and quarter horses. By noon, when the daily chores of track life are over and the mostly male staffers are resting on their cardboard covered cots, Garrido starts training.

She said there have been a few hecklers—"one or two chauvinistic men who have tried to denigrate me."

"They told me, 'You are a woman, you can't do it.' But that has helped motivate me to show them that if you want really want it, you can achieve it," she said.

Garrido and 22-year-old Jazmin Larios are following in the steps of Maria Villalobos, the first professional female jockey in Mexico. Villalobos began racing in 2001 and quit four years later to become a trainer.

Before any jockey can go from apprentice to professional in Mexico, they must either ride for a year or win 40 races.

Garrido, who weighs 108 pounds, won by two lengths in her debut last month and has

since won another race and also finished second. Larios, who began racing in June, has competed in 10 races and has not yet won.

"The macho part of horse racing will soon be history in Mexico," said Ricardo Mar, the track's director. "Before, if a woman said they want to be a jockey, everybody would tell them they were crazy and that racing is for men."

Like most jockeys here, Garrido and Larios say they aspire to ride in the United States, where numerous female jockeys have been successful and a very good jockey can earn millions of dollars a year in purses. In comparison, a good jockey in Mexico earns around \$30,000 a year.

Sofia Barandela, who has been working as a veterinarian and galloper at the track for two years, also hopes to race. She filed her paperwork last week to become an apprentice jockey, and Mar said at least two other women who currently work in the stables also want to become jockeys.

"In the next few months we will have four or five women jockeys and after that many more women will want to try racing," Mar said.



This Jan. 18, 2013 file photo shows actor-singer Michael Cera at the 2013 Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah.

ABC News reporter Vargas back in rehab

LOS ANGELES (AP)—ABC News reporter Elizabeth Vargas has returned to a recovery center to be treated for alcohol dependency, she and the network said Sunday.

The “20/20” co-anchor said in an emailed statement that she checked into a treatment facility this weekend while on vacation.

“As so many other recovering alcoholics know, overcoming the disease can be a long and incredibly difficult process,” Vargas said. “I feel I have let myself, my co-workers and most importantly my family down and for that I am ashamed and sorry.”

Vargas, who’s married to Marc Cohn and has two children with the singer-songwriter, said she was “committed to battling and addressing this debilitating disease” and expressed thanks for the support she has received.

The network said in a statement that it stands “squarely behind her” and was focused on Vargas’ health.

“We look forward to having her back at ABC News when she feels ready to return,” ABC News said.

Vargas is being treated at an inpatient facility, and the length of her stay will be determined by her and her doctors, said a person familiar with the situation.

The person, who wasn’t authorized to comment publicly, spoke on condition of anonymity.

Vargas, 51, spent several weeks in a treatment facility last fall. She acknowledged in an interview that aired in January on “Good Morning America” that she was an alcoholic and that it took years for her to admit it.

She said she had suffered panic attacks since she was a child.

“I dealt with that anxiety, and with the stress that the anxiety brought, by starting to drink,” she said in the interview.

Vargas has worked in network news since 1993, first with NBC and then ABC, which she joined in 1996.



In this May 14, 2014, file photo, Elizabeth Vargas attends A Celebration of Barbara Walters at the Four Seasons Restaurant in New York.

Hip hop, graffiti in Lebanon tag a nation’s woes

BEIRUT (AP)—In a red-lit bar in Beirut, Nasser Shorbaji and Marwan Alameh try not to knock the microphones over while laughing during the broadcast of their weekly radio show.

Moments later, they turn more somber as they introduce a segment on Palestinian hip hop, discussing the most recent outbreak of war on Gaza. Heads nod in the packed bar to the rhymes of Sati, a Palestinian rapper.

The duo are among a host of Lebanese graffiti artists and rappers trying to re-engage disaffected youth in a debate about the country’s latest wave of political turmoil and the woes of the greater Middle East.

“People don’t want to be preached to. So we’re just doing a fun thing in order to put out serious issues,” Alameh said.

One example is Shorbaji’s latest music video to his song “O.P.P.,” which takes its title from the 1991 hit by U.S. hip



In this Monday, July 7, 2014 photo, Filipino Syrian rapper Nasser Shorbaji, 29, center, and Lebanese Marwan Alameh, 32, second right, laugh during a live broadcast of their show ‘Bar Fight’ at Radio Beirut, in Lebanon.

hop group Naughty By Nature. Shorbaji’s version focuses on a suicide bomber working as a bank clerk who thinks through

whether or not to carry out an attack on his workplace.

Another is rapper and graffiti artist Omar Kabbani, 31, who runs Ashekman, a rap, graffiti and urban clothing outfit with his brother Mohamed.

“We consider ourselves to be the eight o’clock news when we go out to do graffiti,” Kabbani said. “They say I was born with a microphone and my twin brother with a spray can.”

While Kabbani is wary of calling Ashekman’s work political, the group’s music and street art does not avoid Lebanese society’s many conflicts. Ashekman’s “Grendizer,” a giant war robot from anime cartoons the

group uses in its designs, is often used by Ashekman to mock what they see as mindless obedience to religious and political factions—and their militias—in Lebanon’s polarized political landscape.

“Many people that were warlords in Lebanon are now ruling the country,” he says, referring to leaders in Lebanon’s 15-year civil war, which ended in 1990, who have gone on to prominent political careers.

In its song “Deyman Ijebah,” Arabic for “Always Positive,” Ashekman makes fun of what they see as attempts by Lebanese to appear unperturbed by their country’s instability.

Publicist: Casey Kasem to be buried in Norway

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The wife of Casey Kasem plans to bury the late radio personality in Norway—contrary to Kasem’s desire to be interred in Los Angeles and against the wishes of his adult children, a publicist for Kasem’s daughter said Friday.

The children were working with a private investigator but have few legal options to prevent the overseas burial, publicist Danny Deraney told The Associated Press.

Teruyuki Olsen, a lawyer for Jean Kasem, didn’t return an email seeking comment. As the spouse of the radio personality, she is conservator of his body, said Deraney, who works for Kerri Kasem.

It was unclear when the burial might occur and why Jean Kasem selected Norway.

Kasem, host of “American Top 40,” died on June 15 at a hospital in Gig Harbor, Wash-

ington. He was 82 and suffering from dementia. His death followed a lengthy battle over his care between Jean Kasem and his three adult children from his first marriage.

Deraney said burial outside the United States would be contrary to what Casey Kasem had wanted.

“He publicly made it clear to his friends, his kids, that he wanted to be buried in Forest Lawn in Glendale, in Los Angeles,” the publicist said.

The Norwegian newspaper VG reported that Kasem will be buried in Oslo.

“It’s been arranged, he’s going to Oslo,” Wenche Madsen Eriksson, the head of the funeral service administration in Oslo, told the newspaper.

She declined to say why Oslo was chosen, explaining that the family wants to keep that information confidential.

Ex-host David Gregory praised on ‘Meet the Press’

NEW YORK (AP)—NBC News correspondent Andrea Mitchell has paid tribute on “Meet the Press” to its abruptly departed host, David Gregory.

Mitchell told viewers Sunday that the long-running public-affairs show has made a lot of history and that a large share was made with Gregory at the helm. She said Gregory had been “true to the traditions of the program

and NBC News.”

Gregory had been at NBC News for two decades and host of “Meet the Press” since 2008. Last week he announced he was leaving the network amid sinking ratings for the program. Prior to his tenure, it had been the ratings leader.

Mitchell was filling in as host. NBC political director Chuck Todd takes over as permanent host Sept. 7.

Young man with heart scar has options for covering it up

DEAR ABBY: You printed a letter from “Self-Conscious in Georgia” (May 15), a young man who is insecure about the scar from his heart surgery. I have had three surgeries for congenital defects, my first at 2 years old. Because many women’s fashions expose the upper chest, I applied anti-scar products, which greatly reduced the size and color of my scars.

Swimwear lines have sun-blocking swim shirts that are quick-drying and comfortable. At the beach, “Self-Conscious” could wear a beach-themed T-shirt and say he is reducing his sun exposure, which is a good idea these days.

As to anyone protesting his not going shirtless, true friends accept your choices, no matter the circumstances. They won’t call you out for not following the herd.

And another thing: The young man might benefit from a cardiac support group to lessen his feelings of isolation or inadequacy. He suffered trauma that led to and created that scar. Now he deserves to be happy on his own terms.

WAS THERE ONCE AND I’M STILL HERE

DEAR STILL HERE: Thank you for your comments. Readers were quick to offer messages of support to “Self-Conscious”:

DEAR ABBY: I am a registered nurse. That scar can be faded by using pure cocoa butter (in stick form, not lotion). It can be purchased at the pharmacy.

I would also like to let him know that in this part of the country, survivors are known as members of the “Zipper Club.” When I see patients with this scar, I know they have had open heart surgery. It alerts me to a whole realm of information before anything is said and directs how care is given in case of emergency. Please let “Self-Conscious” know his scar is not an eyesore, but a GIFT OF LIFE.

PROUD R.N. IN WEST VIRGINIA

DEAR ABBY: “Self-Conscious” might benefit from getting a tattoo. A recent TV program aired a segment showing women with mastectomies receiving amazing designs to cover or beautify their scars. With a good tattoo artist, these pieces can be life-altering and the artwork stunning.

JANET IN ANNAPOLIS, MD.

DEAR ABBY: I broke my ankle a few years ago. A wonderful surgeon and a fantastic physical therapist got me walking again, but I was left with several large, raised scars. I put wheat germ oil (full of vitamin E) on them in the morning and evening, and they

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



are barely visible now.

ONLINE READER IN ISRAEL

DEAR ABBY: For many years I dated a young man with a similar scar, and it was something I found endearing. To me, it was no different than freckles or a birthmark. It was part of what made him unique. We all have our stories and history. His scar is an opening to share his.

ROSE IN NORTHAMPTON, MASS.

DEAR ABBY: I have a young friend who had open-heart surgery when she was a high school senior. On the night of her prom, she wore a strapless dress with her “red badge of courage” on full display.

SANDRA IN ROCHESTER, N.H.

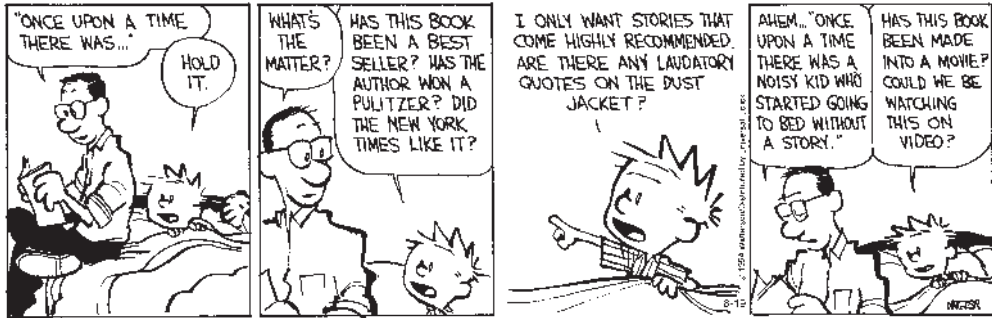
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

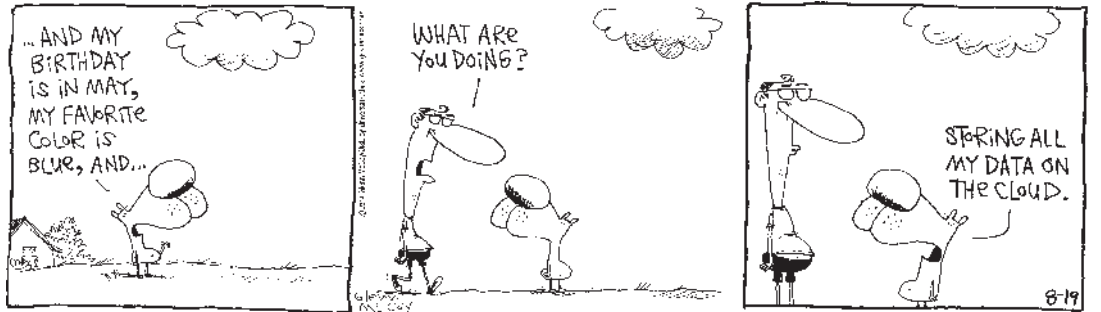
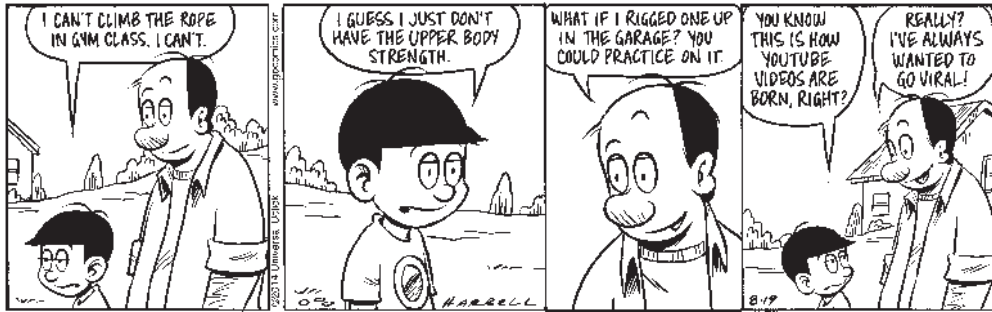


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Body powder
5 Piercing tool
8 Anti-aircraft fire
12 Always
13 Homer Simpson's bartender
14 Easter flower
15 Huge (Pref.)
16 Offer
18 TV show
20 Obliterate
21 Auto fuel
22 Employ
23 Coral component
26 Raise an objection
30 Geological period
31 A very long time
32 Keanu, in "The Matrix"
33 Alternative to charcoal

DOWN

36 Obama's veep
38 Office-holders
39 Be unwell
40 Half a clown's pair
43 Extend
47 Crime-fighting psychologist
49 — gin fizz
50 Mysterious character
51 Vast expanse
52 Burn aid
53 Calendar quota
54 Parched
55 Tug

DOWN

22 Coffee shop vessel
23 Energy
24 Bobby of hockey
25 "7 Faces of Dr. —"
26 "Ulaume" writer
27 Conclusion
28 Witness
29 Heavy weight
31 Navy newbie (Abbr.)
34 Swipe
35 Con
36 Life story
37 "You betcha!"
39 Impressive display
40 Agile
41 Verifiable
42 Hebrides island
43 Equal
44 Earthenware pot
45 Midday
46 Dweeb
48 "Acid"

Solution time: 22 mins.

S	O	U	L	F	A	B	A	B	E
E	A	S	E	I	V	E	A	D	A
T	H	E	A	S	E	A	M	L	E
H	U	R	R	A	H	S	L	B	L
N	I	N	A	G	O	A			
S	P	O	T	L	E	S	A	I	D
A	R	P	S	T	A	H	L	D	I
W	E	P	T	S	H	O	E	L	E
O	H	M	I	O	N	A			
A	S	S	A	I	L				
S	K	I	N	L	E	S	S	F	A
P	U	N	K	I	O	U	P	O	N
S	A	G	S	S	U	P	L	E	N

Yesterday's answer 8-19

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Tammin Sursok, 31; Matthew Perry, 45; John Stamos, 51; Bill Clinton, 68.

Happy Birthday: You have a lot to offer and can make a difference if you indulge in causes that will improve your community, surroundings or standard of living. Your sensitivity toward others will buy you favors and popularity. Trust in what you know and the skills you have mastered. Honest communication followed by precise action will be your best bet this year. Your numbers are 6, 13, 20, 23, 33, 37, 46.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You may feel like socializing or going out and having fun, but before doing so, get your responsibilities out of the way. Love is in the stars and good fortune can be yours if you avoid unnecessary indulgences. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Take care of unfinished personal responsibilities at home before someone complains. A personal partnership will go through some ups and downs that will be unnerving. Accepting the inevitable will help you see the benefits that come with change. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Detail and precise explanations will help you avoid being misinterpreted. Bring about change that will help you make personal improvements. Refuse to let someone you work with goad you into an argument. Play to win, but incorporate diplomacy and facts into your game plan. ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You will have to use discipline to ensure that you don't let anyone bully you into an un-

compromising position. Put greater effort into honing your skills and mastering whatever task you are given. Dedication and loyalty will play in your favor. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Explore the possibilities open to you. A change in your beliefs, lifestyle or surroundings will be beneficial and encourage you to meet people from interesting backgrounds. Don't limit what you can do due to someone's lack of adventure. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Check out whatever everyone around you is doing and saying. You will be misrepresented if you let someone speak for you. Put pressure on anyone trying to take over or control the outcome of a situation that will affect your position or reputation. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Call in favors. Talk to people you have worked with in the past about new opportunities or business partnerships. If you are passionate about your ideas and plans, you will encourage others to join your cause. Love is on the rise. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Your concern with work and reaching your goals will cost you personally. Someone will feel neglected and is likely to overreact or indulge to get your attention. Make an effort to tend to personal responsibilities to avoid discord. ★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You may want to jump feet-first into an adventure or a personal alteration, but make sure the information you have received is accurate before you take a leap of faith. Misun-

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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derstandings are apparent. Protect your assets and possessions. ★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You can make a difference to the outcome of a situation if you lend a helping hand to someone you know through work. Your dedication and loyalty will win you points. Don't jeopardize your position or let anyone take credit for your work. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Someone will try to impress you. Check out the logistics of any information you receive. Keep private or personal information a secret until you feel comfortable with the situation or the people you encounter. Love is highlighted. ★★★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Take on more responsibility if it will help you secure your financial, legal or contractual position. Only share information that you feel will contribute to your advancement. Someone appears to have an ulterior motive. ★★

Birthday Baby: You are curious, generous and loving. You are imaginative and progressive. Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

				9	6		1		
			3		4	2		5	
	1	8					7		
							8	7	
6								1	
2	3								
	7					1	5		
1		4	2				6		
	5		8	1					

Difficulty Level ★★

8/19

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

5	9	8	4	3	1	6	7	2
2	4	6	8	7	5	9	1	3
7	1	3	6	9	2	5	8	4
9	7	1	2	6	4	8	3	5
8	2	4	1	5	3	7	6	9
6	3	5	7	8	9	2	4	1
1	8	9	3	2	7	4	5	6
4	5	7	9	1	6	3	2	8
3	6	2	5	4	8	1	9	7

Difficulty Level ★

8/19

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

PUT IT IN STORAGE

Solution: 9 letters

J	W	C	I	S	U	M	S	E	V	L	E	H	S	I
D	A	A	S	H	E	D	S	Y	R	O	M	E	M	E
L	E	R	R	O	C	B	A	S	K	E	T	P	E	H
O	P	C	S	E	U	Q	I	T	N	A	R	H	S	C
H	U	O	A	S	B	T	V	D	R	O	L	T	R	A
E	B	M	D	P	E	A	A	C	V	O	I	E	P	C
S	L	A	O	S	S	O	N	E	C	C	C	P	A	L
U	I	I	O	E	L	B	M	K	K	O	L	E	C	O
O	C	L	S	A	V	E	E	E	R	I	A	Z	K	T
H	C	N	E	B	N	R	D	A	T	T	I	C	H	
A	E	S	I	T	S									
M	W	K	S	A										
P	E	U	F											
E	R	E												
R	V	A	U	L	T	I	N	U	A	S	T	O	Y	S

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8/19

Antiques, Appliances, Attic, Bank, Basket, Beds, Bench, Bike, Bins, Cache, Cards, Carts, Closet, Clothing, Grates, Cubes, Data, Ewer, Hamper, Household, Improvements, Jars, Letters, Load, Lockers, Mail, Memory, Music, Organize, Pack, Pods, Public, Records, Rental, Safe, Save, Seal, Sheds, Shelves, Shoes, Sort, Space, Stickers, Tools, Toys, Unit, Vases, Vault

Yesterday's Answer: Rockford Files

To purchase THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 27, 31, 35, 37, 38, 39 or 40 order online at www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contains 43 puzzles.)

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

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Cuddyer hits for cycle as Rockies sweep Reds



DENVER (AP)—Michael Cuddyer hit for the cycle, including a two-run double in Colorado's five-run eighth inning, as the Rockies beat the Cincinnati Reds 10-5 on Sunday to complete a doubleheader sweep.

Colorado won the opener 10-9 when Drew Stubbs capped a five-run ninth inning with a three-run homer off J.J. Hoover (1-9).

Cuddyer tripled in the first, homered in the fifth and singled in the seventh while becoming the seventh Rockies player to hit for the cycle and first since Carlos Gonzalez on July 31, 2010, against the Chicago Cubs.

Cuddyer's second career cycle came in his second game back after he was sidelined by a left shoulder injury.

Adam Ottavino (1-4) picked up the win in relief and Carlos Contreras (0-1) took the loss.

Rex Brothers (4-5) picked up the victory in the opener despite allowing a pair of runs in the top of the ninth.

Brewers 7, Dodgers 2

In Los Angeles, Jonathan Lucroy equaled a season high with five RBIs, including his first home run in more than three weeks, as the Brewers completed a three-game sweep.

Wily Peralta (15-7) tied Johnny Cueto and Adam Wainwright for the major league lead in victories, allowing five hits in six scoreless innings. The right-hander is 6-1 with a 1.79 ERA in his last seven starts.

Carlos Gomez hit his 20th homer, helping the Brewers maintain their three-game lead over St. Louis in the NL Central. They also became the first team to sweep the NL West-leading Dodgers in a series of three or more games this season.

Dodgers right-hander Dan Haren (10-10) gave up six runs and five hits over three innings in his shortest outing of the season.

Braves 4, Athletics 3

In Atlanta, Justin Upton hit a two-run homer as the Braves ended Jon Lester's seven-game winning streak.

The Braves swept the three-game series, leaving the A's with a five-game losing streak, their longest of the season. The A's have lost seven of eight overall and trail the Angels, who lost to Texas on Sunday, by percentage points in the AL West.

Oakland's Nate Freiman hit two homers, giving him three in the series, but Mike Minor (5-8) allowed only two other hits in seven strong innings.

Lester (13-8) allowed four runs, three earned, and six hits in six-plus innings in his first loss since June 7 for the Red Sox at Detroit.

Craig Kimbrel worked a perfect ninth for his 37th save.

Yankees 4, Rays 2

In St. Petersburg, Florida, Hiroki Kuroda pitched neatly into the seventh inning and Brett Gardner drove in two runs to lead the Yankees to the road win.

Kuroda (8-8) retired 17 straight batters after allowing consecutive one-out singles to Ben Zobrist and Matt Joyce in the first. He gave up two runs and four hits in 6 2-3 innings.

After Shawn Kelley and Dellin Betances combined for 1 1-3 scoreless innings, David Robertson closed for his 33rd save.

Tampa Bay's Jeremy Hellickson (1-2) gave up three runs and four hits in five innings. Evan Longoria had two RBIs for the Rays.

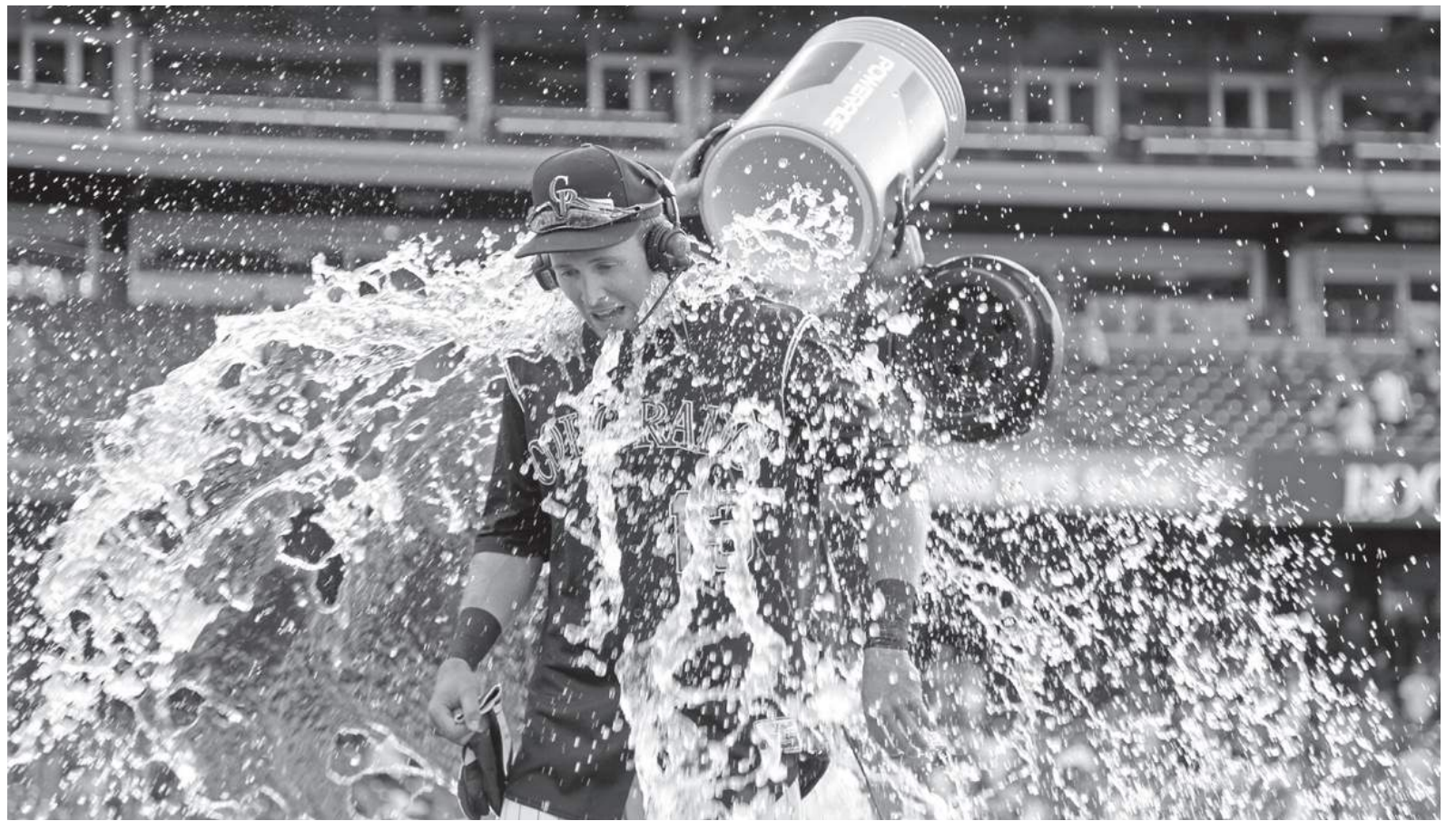
Mark Teixeira reached 20 homers for the 11th time in his career with a solo shot in the Yankees eighth.

Royals 12, Twins 6

In Minneapolis, Alex Gordon, Salvador Perez and Josh Willingham homered as the Royals won for the 20th time in their last 25 games.

Kansas City sent 11 batters to the plate and scored seven times in the second, keyed by two-run singles for Alcides Escobar and Nori Aoki. The Royals also increased their AL Central lead to 1 1/2 games over Detroit, which lost 8-1 to Seattle.

Kansas City's Jeremy Guthrie (9-10) returned



Colorado Rockies' Drew Stubbs, front, reacts after being doused by teammates Brandon Barnes as Stubbs is interviewed after hitting a three-run, walkoff home run against the Cincinnati Reds in the ninth inning of a baseball game in Denver on Sunday, Aug. 17, 2014.

to the mound after a 54-minute rain delay in the fourth and lasted seven innings.

Joe Mauer, Kennys Vargas and Oswaldo Arcia homered for Minnesota. Tommy Milone (6-4) allowed seven runs in a career-low 1 1-3 innings.

Nationals 6, Pirates 5, 11 innings

In Washington, pinch-hitter Scott Hairston drove in Jayson Werth with a game-ending sacrifice fly, sending Washington to a three-game sweep.

Werth, who had missed the last five games with a bothersome shoulder, entered as a pinch hitter in the ninth and doubled leading off the 11th against Brandon Crompton (3-4).

Werth went to third on Denard Span's grounder to first. Hairston then sent Crompton's first pitch to deep left and Werth scored easily.

Ross Detwiler (2-2) pitched two innings for the win.

NL East-leading Washington has won six straight. The Pirates have lost five in a row for the first time since September 2012.

Orioles 4, Indians 1

In Cleveland, rookie Kevin Gausman pitched six strong innings as Baltimore salvaged the series finale, beating Cleveland to avoid being swept for the first time since May.

Gausman (7-4) allowed just one run and two hits. Zach Britton finished the combined two-hitter for his 26th save.

The AL East leaders totaled just one run in their previous two games. J.J. Hardy hit a two-out RBI single and slumping Chris Davis had an RBI double in the sixth after Baltimore was blanked over the first five by Danny Salazar (4-6).

Steve Pearce and Jonathan Schoop homered for Baltimore.

Mariners 8, Tigers 1

In Detroit, Chris Young pitched six shutout innings as Seattle won the weekend series, moving back ahead of Detroit in the race for the second AL wild-card spot.

Seattle's Lloyd McClendon, managing his first series in Detroit after serving as Jim Leyland's hitting coach, was ejected for the second straight game. McClendon was tossed for arguing after Detroit's Alex Avila drew a seventh-inning walk.

Young (12-6) allowed four hits and a walk. Tigers rookie Robbie Ray (1-3) struggled while replacing injured Anibal Sanchez.

Marlins 10, Diamondbacks 3

In Miami, Giancarlo Stanton hit his 32nd homer and drove in four runs to power Miami to the win.

Stanton has a career-high 88 RBIs, one more than he had in 2011. He went 7 for 14 with four walks and six RBIs in the four-game series against Arizona.

Garrett Jones also homered for the Marlins, who have won five of seven to get back to the .500 mark at 62-62. Tom Koehler (9-9) pitched six innings, allowing two runs.

Stanton hit a three-run homer and Jones also connected in the first against Josh Collmenter (8-7).

Arizona's Ender Inciarte extended his hitting streak to 17 games with a bunt single in the sixth.

Giants 5, Phillies 2

In San Francisco, Michael Morse got three hits and scored twice as San Francisco won consecutive home games for the first time in over two months.

Andrew Susac had two hits and drove in the go-ahead run for the Giants. Brandon Crawford drove in a pair of runs.

Chase Utley and Cody Asche drove in runs for the Phillies, who have lost seven of their last nine.

Tim Lincecum (10-8) managed to work through five innings to end a personal three-game losing streak. He gave up two runs and seven hits.

Santiago Casilla earned his 10th save in 13 chances.

Philadelphia's David Buchanan (6-7) allowed two earned runs in 6 2-3 innings.

Cubs 2, Mets 1

In New York, Starlin Castro hit a tiebreaking homer on the first pitch of the ninth inning to lift Chicago to the win.

Cubs starter Jake Arrieta struck out nine in seven smooth innings. He left with a 1-0 lead following Luis Valbuena's run-scoring single in the fourth.

Slumping slugger Curtis Granderson tied it with a two-out RBI single off winner Pedro Strop (2-4) in the eighth, snapping skids of 0 for 17 and 1 for 29. A diving catch by rookie center fielder Arismendy Alcantara moments earlier prevented more potential damage.

Castro greeted closer Jenrry Mejia (5-6) with his 13th home run, an opposite-field drive that barely cleared the wall near the right-field corner.

Hector Rondon got three quick outs for his 17th save, finishing a four-hitter that ended Chicago's three-game losing streak.

Cardinals 7, Padres 6

In St. Louis, Matt Carpenter homered, doubled and drove in three runs for St. Louis, as Adam Wainwright moved into a share of the major league lead with his 15th win.

Jon Jay's two-run single highlighted a four-run first inning when the Cardinals batted around against rookie Odrisamer Despaigne (3-4). Peter Bourjos and Tony Cruz each had an RBI single for St. Louis, which took three of four in the series.

Wainwright (15-7) allowed three earned runs in seven innings. Seth Maness got two outs for his second save.

Rangers 3, Angels 2

In Arlington, Texas, Adam Rosales and Mike Carp hit RBI singles in the ninth inning off Angels closer Huston Street, rallying Texas.

Texas had lost four in a row overall, and nine straight to the Angels. Los Angeles had won its last four games.

Street (1-1) had saved the first two games of the three-game series. The blown save was his second in 35 opportunities with the Angels and Padres.

Street had not given up a run since being acquired from San Diego on July 18 until Carp's tying single.

Neftali Feliz (1-1) pitched a scoreless ninth inning.

White Sox 7, Blue Jays 5

In Chicago, Conor Gillaspie hit his first grand slam and Jordan Danks added a two-run shot to cap a six-run first inning as the Chicago White Sox held off Toronto.

Toronto's Edwin Encarnacion hit a two-run homer, his 27th this season and first since returning from the disabled list on Friday. The Blue Jays have lost five of six and 11 of 15.

Scott Carroll (5-7) went 5 2-3 innings. Jake Petricka earned his ninth save in 12 chances after loading the bases in the ninth.

Gillaspie connected for this fifth homer and Danks hit his second off Drew Hutchison (8-11).

Astros 8, Red Sox 1

In Boston, Jose Altuve hit his first grand slam after Boston shortstop Xander Bogaerts made a mental gaffe on a play that would have ended an inning, carrying Houston over the Red Sox.

Altuve, who leads the majors in hits, went 4 for 5, raising his hit total to 173 and majors' best average to .339 as the Astros completed a split of the four-game series.

Dexter Fowler and Jon Singleton added solo homers for Houston, which earned its 52nd win to surpass last year's total.

Collin McHugh (6-9) gave up one run in six innings.

Joe Kelly (0-1) was tagged for seven runs on seven hits, walking six over four innings in his Fenway Park debut with the Red Sox.

Tricky 18th hole helps Villegas win Wyndham

WYNDHAM
CHAMPIONSHIP

GREENSBORO,

N.C. (AP)—Camilo Villegas got some help from an unlikely source on his way to his first victory in a while.

The tricky 18th hole at Sedgefield Country Club tripped up his top two challengers.

Villegas won the Wyndham Championship by a stroke Sunday for his first on the PGA Tour since 2010 after Freddie Jacobson and Nick Watney ran into trouble on the final hole.

"I thought somebody was going to get" a birdie on 18, Villegas said.

Nobody who could catch him did.

That gave the Colombian \$954,000 in prize money and 500 FedEx Cup points in the final regular-season event.

Villegas had four birdies and an eagle on the front nine, added a birdie on the par-5 15th and watched the rest of the tournament from the air-conditioned scorer's tent with his caddie.

"I was hoping for a playoff," Villegas said.

Turns out, he didn't have to hit another shot, not after the rest of the field struggled late. Instead, he earned his fourth PGA Tour title and first since the 2010 Honda Classic.

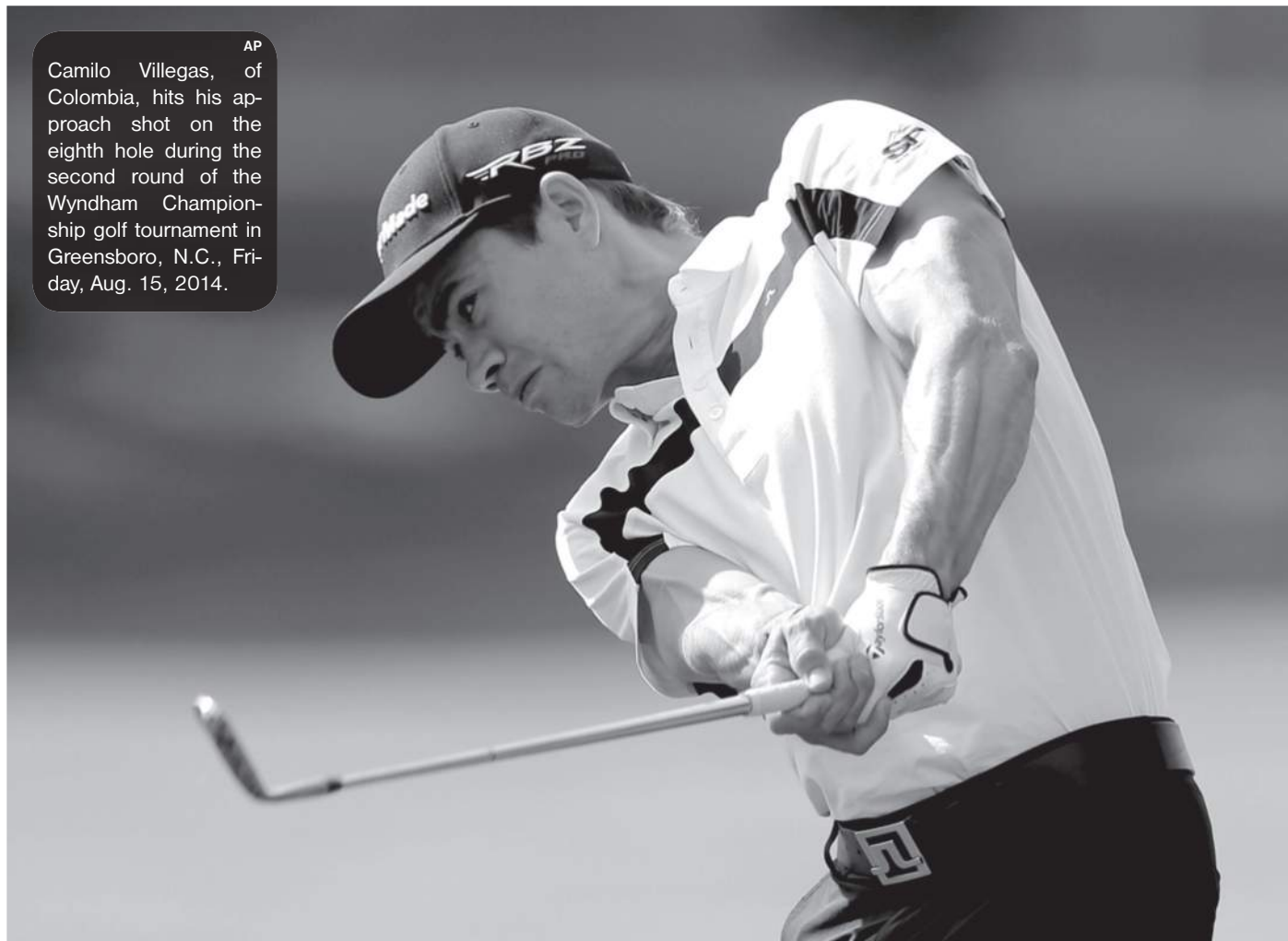
He also became the second first-round leader to win this tournament since its 2008 move back to Sedgefield and first since Arjun Atwal in 2010.

Bill Haas (64) and Jacobson (66) tied for second.

Jacobson needed a par on the final hole to force a playoff, but he rolled his 11-foot putt inches past the hole.

"It really sucks when you play solid all day and, you know, I really thought it was my day

AP
Camilo Villegas, of Colombia, hits his approach shot on the eighth hole during the second round of the Wyndham Championship golf tournament in Greensboro, N.C., Friday, Aug. 15, 2014.



coming in," Jacobson said. "All I needed was a solid strike to get up there and good feed in and have a good chance of winning."

Heath Slocum (67) was two strokes back. Brandt Snedeker (67), Webb Simpson (67) and third-round leader Watney (70) were at 14 under.

Villegas had to wait about 40 minutes after his round ended before his victory was secure.

He closed his round with three straight pars, tapping in from about 2 feet on 18 and hoping it was good enough.

It was - once the crowd thinned itself out.

"When the boys got closer to the last hole, you can get a little anxious," Villegas said. "You don't have a golf club in your hand. You can't really control it."

Watney was at 17 under and

appeared headed for his sixth PGA Tour victory before he ran into trouble on 14 and picked up his third bogey of the tournament and second of the day.

He followed with three

straight pars, leaving him needing a birdie on the final hole to tie Villegas.

He had one on Saturday—but couldn't do it again.

He wound up with a double bo-

gey after his tee shot bounced past a cart path and out of bounds.

"I knew what was at stake, and I pushed it a little bit," Watney said. "Extremely disappointed. If you said at any point, you birdie (the) last hole, you're in a playoff, you would take it. ... That was really a bad shot at a really bad time."

That came after Jacobson also couldn't catch Villegas.

The other main subplot here this week was the last-gasp push for spots in the PGA Tour's playoffs, which begin next week at The Barclays in New Jersey.

Slocum, who arrived at No. 158 on the points list, was briefly at 17 under but slipped off the pace by closing with two bogeys that also helped keep him out of The Barclays field. He finished at No. 129.

Martin Laird, who was at No. 136, was near the lead all weekend but his tie for 14th could only propel him to No. 127.

Paul Casey, 125th at the start of the week, tied for 18th to put himself safely in the field. Sang-Moon Bae played his way into the playoffs with a tie for 14th that moved him to No. 120. Jhonattan Vegas was at No. 124 but kept himself securely in the field with his tie for eighth.

"The goal was definitely to move on to next week," Vegas said. "Mission accomplished."

With passing trend, is Peterson last great back?



MANKATO, Minn. (AP)—Jim Brown spinning his way through the line and breaking loose in the secondary with a burst of speed.

Walter Payton lowering a stiff arm and tearing away from the tackler with those long, almost-straight-leg strides.

Barry Sanders slithering around in the backfield and finding a seam to dart through.

Those are the enduring images of grit, perseverance and even elegance on which the NFL's multibillion-dollar empire was first built.

These days the workhorses have become a fading breed. Quarterbacks are the unquestioned stars of the modern game.

"We're not getting the ball 30 times or 20-something times a game. Sometimes I get the ball 10 times and the rest of it is catches," Kansas City's Jamaal Charles said. "It's just the way they use me now. The game has changed."

Adrian Peterson nearly broke Eric Dickerson's NFL single-season rushing record in 2012 on his way to winning the league's MVP award for Minnesota. At this rate, though, Peterson could be the last running back to get one. Even he, with that relentless nature and throwback style, has acknowledged an acceptance of the shift in this role.

"I'm trying to win a champi-

onship, so if that's taking less of a pounding and being more productive in the pass game, I'm all in for it," Peterson said.

At age 29, Peterson is perhaps the NFL's last great workhorse running back.

Maybe someone a year or two younger like Charles or Seattle's Marshawn Lynch or Philadelphia's LeSean McCoy will pass Peterson on the all-time list and defy the trend with a productive career into his mid-30s. But there are many signs that won't happen:

■ For the second straight draft, no running backs were selected in the first round, an absence not seen since 1963. Over the last five years, a total of seven running backs were first-round picks. From 2000-2004, there were 15. From 1985-1989, there were 25.

■ Last year, only McCoy and Lynch ran the ball 300 or more times. In 2003, 13 players did that.

■ Only nine teams in the league last season had one player take 60 percent or more of their rushing attempts, down from 14 in 2003 and 14 in 1998. Nine teams also had two players with 30 percent or more carries last year, up from five in 2003.

■ Last season's leader in team rushing attempt percentage was Chicago's Matt Forte with 72 percent, and he's not close to appearing on an all-time list. According to STATS research, the most recent player in the

top 20 was Edgerrin James with 81 percent for Arizona in 2007. Even Peterson has never topped 72 percent in his career. James has the most in history, according to STATS, with 89 percent for Indianapolis in 2000.

■ Only two of the last 10 Super Bowl champions have featured a 300-carry running back: Lynch last season and Corey Dillon for New England in 2004-05. The New York Giants finished last in the league in rushing in 2011 and still went on to win the title.

So how in the name of Emmitt Smith did the game get to this point?

With players bigger, faster and stronger, the guys running the ball now are simply more prone to getting beat up than their predecessors from the previous generations.

Teams must constantly develop replacements not only for down the road when the featured runner turns 30 but for in-game breaks to keep him fresh. The committee approach can also help prevent the defense from getting too comfortable with one particular style. The evolution of the passing game, with Charles and the Chiefs as an example, has also essentially transformed several running plays per game into short throws.

Thus, teams have a hard time justifying paying running backs as their franchise players. Peterson is the outlier with a salary

cap hit this year of more than \$14 million. The next-closest running back is McCoy at \$9.7 million. The money has been shifting not only toward the quarterbacks, but also the guys paid to protect them or catch their spirals. Even the guys that try to sack quarterbacks and intercept passes are making more than running backs.

The Seahawks were champions with Lynch as a bruising old-school running back, and San Francisco has been one of the league's best teams lately with a similar approach behind Frank Gore. Those teams also feature quarterbacks with exceptional running ability and the read option as a staple of their playbooks. The way they move the ball is far different than when the Bears used to build their offense around Payton.

Fundamental changes have taken place. The NFL might not ever see another 400-carry running back. But maybe it's wise.

"If you're looking at what's going on here lately you'd think it's been devalued a little bit, just from a numbers standpoint and money-wise, too. But you always hear the league's kind of cyclical," Vikings fullback Jerome Felton said. "I think if you look at teams that are successful, they do run the football. There's only so many Tom Bradys. There's only so many Peyton Mannings. So unless you have one of those guys, it's important to be able to run."

Source: Marion to sign with Cavaliers



CLEVELAND (AP)—Shawn Marion wanted another shot at an NBA title. He'll get it playing with LeBron James.

The free agent forward has agreed to a contract with the Cavaliers, a person familiar with the negotiations told The Associated Press on Sunday. The 36-year-old Marion informed the Cavs this weekend that he will take a minimum deal and play for them next season, said the person who spoke condition of anonymity because the contract has not been finalized.

Marion also had interest in signing with the Indiana Pacers, who is looking for help after losing Paul George for the season with a broken leg.

ESPN.com first reported Marion's agreement with the Cavs.

The Cavs can only offer Marion a deal worth \$1.4 million because they're out of room under the salary cap.

A four-time All-Star, Marion gives Cleveland another vet-


eran with postseason experience to compliment James, who is returning to the Cavs intent on winning the city's first pro championship since 1964. The team has previously signed shooters Mike Miller and James Jones, who won two NBA titles with James in Miami.

Cleveland is also on the brink of adding All-Star forward Kevin Love, who is expected to come over from Minnesota in a trade on or after Aug. 23. While Love gives the Cavs size, another shooter and an excellent passer, he has never played in a postseason game as a pro.

Marion, on the other hand, has played in 103 NBA playoff games. He won a title as a role player with Dallas in 2011 and spent the past five seasons with the Mavericks.

Considered a strong defensive player, he's averaged 15.8 points and 9.0 rebounds during his career, which began with Phoenix in 1999. Marion was with the Suns for nine-plus seasons and worked with Cavs general manager David Griffin.

Roach confident of Pacquiao win versus Algieri

BOXING

World-class boxing coach Freddie Roach says he is not fretting over Manny Pacquiao's next fight against Chris Algieri. In fact, the six time Trainer of the Year awardee is actually very confident that the Filipino boxer will not only dominate the ring, but also, and more impressively, knock out his upcoming opponent.

Roach has expressed his firm belief that Pacquiao will be able to deliver a knockout win over Algieri. "We'll knock him out somewhere along the way," Roach shared in an interview with Tha Boxing Voice. The eagerly awaited match will be held at the Venetian Casino and Resort in Macau on November 22. The fight will be Pacquiao's World Boxing Organization welterweight defense.

Inasmuch as this news has remarkably thrilled fans of the boxers, many still question why Algieri was chosen as Pacquiao's next opponent. In fact, even Roach was shocked by this decision made by Top Rank Promotions CEO Bob Arum. "You have to ask Bob," Roach disclosed. "I have no idea why he picked that guy. He told me that he beat Ruslan, and he's a good fight for Manny and that was it."

According to reports, Arum chose the American boxer after scoring a split decision victory against Ruslan Provodnikov in June. This win by Algieri granted him a shot at fighting for the welterweight title.

Apart from Roach, English boxer Amir Iqbal Khan also found this decision questionable. "I got my team to speak to Bob Arum and we got nothing back, and they went with Algieri," Khan shared. "He's a nobody. Well,



he's not a nobody. You've got to respect him but he's not a big name, and if Manny Pacquiao wanted to make big money in boxing, he needs to fight big names," he added.

In his defense, Algieri insists he deserves this fight. "At the end of the day, I know I proved to be where I am and that I should be here," he shared in an interview with Boxing Scene. "I'm not here just for a payday. I'm not here just to fight Manny Pacquiao," he added.

"I'm coming to win this fight and I'm going to be fully prepared on fight night. Anyone who is looking past that fact doesn't know me and doesn't know anything about me, and that I belong to be here," Algieri declared. To back his convictions, the American boxer has a perfect 20-0 record with eight knockouts. In addition, Algieri has been known to have accurate and precise piston-like jab. His style and height advantage may pose problems for Pacquiao, according to some fans.

Roach, however, dismisses these concerns. "No it should be no problem for Pacquiao. It's like night and day. He's way above him," the 54-year-old trainer said.

Despite the confidence in Pacquiao's ability to win the match, Roach shared that he will train the boxer as hard as before. Pacquiao is set to engage in a five-week camp in the Philippines, after which he will be moving to Macau for a weeklong training.

Freddie Roach, right, seen here in an undated file photo posing with Manny Pacquiao, is very confident that the Filipino boxer will knock out his upcoming opponent.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	70	52	.574	—
New York	63	59	.516	7
Toronto	64	61	.512	7 1/2
Tampa Bay	61	63	.492	10
Boston	56	67	.455	14 1/2

Central Division

Kansas City	68	55	.553	—
Detroit	66	56	.541	1 1/2
Cleveland	62	61	.504	6
Chicago	59	65	.476	9 1/2
Minnesota	55	67	.451	12 1/2

West Division

Los Angeles	72	50	.590	—
Oakland	73	51	.589	—
Seattle	67	56	.545	5 1/2
Houston	52	73	.416	21 1/2
Texas	48	76	.387	25

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Washington	69	53	.566	—
Atlanta	64	60	.516	6
Miami	62	62	.500	8
New York	59	66	.472	11 1/2
Philadelphia	54	70	.435	16

Central Division

Milwaukee	70	55	.560	—
St. Louis	66	57	.537	3
Pittsburgh	64	60	.516	5 1/2
Cincinnati	61	63	.492	8 1/2
Chicago	53	70	.431	16

West Division

Los Angeles	70	56	.556	—
San Francisco	65	58	.528	3 1/2
San Diego	58	65	.472	10 1/2
Arizona	53	71	.427	16
Colorado	49	75	.395	20

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GUAM

From Page 28

NMBA has more than 150 players and the group continues to grow since introducing the club system for recruitment of players. It has five active clubs: Saipan Badminton Club, Shirley's Badminton Club, Taga Badminton Club, Golden Racquets, and the Community Badminton Club, which is bannered by youth players. In the past years, NMBA even had two more clubs and this year more new players joined the group. Majority of the players showed up in the friendly competition and cheered for both federations.

"The club system is really working for NMBA and we hope we could do

that, too in Guam so we can encourage more players," said Li, who led a seven-player Guam delegation to the first Guam-NMBA friendly tournament that the latter hosted.

Li added that having competitions between Saipan and Guam players are beneficial to both federations as far as development of their players is concerned.

"We are able to gauge our players' skills as we compete against players from Saipan. We know how much improvement we need to keep up with Saipan players. Saipan has very good players and a lot of young promising talents," the GNBf official added.

Li also said having competitions like the NMBA-hosted weekend event will help each federation im-

prove its ability to manage tournaments and prepare both NMBA and GNBf for hosting more and bigger events that will involved other groups. "This is a very organized tournament and we would like to do the same when Saipan players come to Guam again. Thank you to NMBA, especially to its president, Mr. Jerry Tan," Li said.

While last week was GNBf's first time to send players to Saipan, the host had been to Guam three times and brought relatively the same group of players each occasion.

"This time, those players who could not go to Guam had a chance to play against our neighbors. It's a good exposure to them, as they managed to gauge the level of play of the Guam players,"

SOLID

From Page 28

against American Samoa's Lessei Perelini and needed only two sets to barge into the win column in Group C, 6-2, 6-2. The unranked Ishikawa is in Group B and missed pulling off a stunner against the fifth-seeded Ruby Coffin of Fiji, as the host's bet nailed a 6-0, 6-2 victory. Ishikawa tries to recover from the Day 1 loss when she challenges Samoa's Tyra Loulanting today, while Lee and Tan guns for win No. 2 against American Samoa's Michelle Miller and the third-seeded Emma Maucotel of Vanuatu, respectively. Tsukagoshi will also have her second game today against Fiji's Namratta Nand.

In the boys U14 singles, the CNMI's lone bet in the division—Luther Lizama—got off to a rousing start after hammering Fiji's Ravneed Chand, 6-0, 6-0. Lizama is seeded fourth in the division and is in Group C along with Guam and fellow North Pacific player Mason Caldwell and Vanuatu's Ben Pechan. Lizama squares off with Caldwell today before closing out his pool play matches tomorrow against Pechan.

In the boys U16, Colin Ramsey is playing in Group B and lost his opening match to Guam's Sydney Gadsen, 2-6, 2-4. Ramsey aims to bounce back today when he duels the second-ranked Kevin Maukoloa of American Samoa.

Meanwhile, the Jeff Race-coached CNMI players will also compete in the boys and girls U12, U14, and U16 doubles events later this week.

GHASIAS

From Page 28

ginning of the second half. Hite Beer kicked off the recovery with a 16-2 scoring binge to move within six, 46-52. Young guns Kevin De Leon, Chris Mizer, and Tristan Montes led Hite Beer's rally and the team won another exchange, 12-4 past the halfway mark of the third to grab the upper hand, 58-56. Montes scored six straight points in the second fightback, before Ghasias Brothers closed out the last two minutes of the third with a 6-0 run to regain the driver's seat, 62-58.

The match was close since then, as Freddie Pelisamen took care of Ghasias

Brother's offense in the fourth, while Hite Beer spread the wealth. Art Montes contributed to Hite Beer's balance offense, as his back-to-back undergoal stabs allowed his team to reclaim the lead, 73-69, 5:39 left on the clock.

Sensing danger, the Ghasias Brothers sued for time and when the game resumed, Freddie Pelisamen anchored a short 6-0 blast to put his squad on top anew, 75-73. It was a back-and-forth match since then with the game tied for the last time at 77-all, going into the final two minutes of the close tiff. Freddie Pelisamen then broke the tie with an and-1 fastbreak play off a touchdown pass from Gyles Ruloked. The Ghasias Brothers went on to stretch the lead to six off Freddie

Pelisamen's two more field goals and the team's three free throws, 87-81, but Hite Beer refused to give up with De Leon knocking in a pair of charities in the last 32 seconds of the match to cut the deficit to four, 83-87.

Still ahead, Ghasias Brothers decided to melt the clock in the ensuing play, while Hite Beer opted not to commit a preemptive foul. Hite Beer's strategy seemed to work, as Ghasias still had the ball with two seconds left on the 24-second shot clock before Ben Pelisamen pulled the trigger from downtown. The ball hit the back iron of the rim and looked to head out, but bounced in, sealing the victory for Ghasias brothers with less than 10 seconds left in the game.

Freddie Pelisamen top-scored for the Ghasias Brothers with his 37 points, while Ben Pelisamen and Gyles Ruloked chipped in 22 and 18, respectively. De Leon led Hite Beer with his 22.

Meanwhile, the second game between Flip Top and Gwap Gang was rained-out in the second canto, while Saturday matches were called off due to rain.

Ghasias Brothers 90 – F. Pelisamen 37, B. Pelisamen 22, Ruloked 18, R. Acosta 4, Pelisamen 2.

Hite Beer 83 – De Leon 22, Mizer 15, Camacho 11, T. Montes 11, Lauron 10, A. Montes 8, Park 4.

Scoring by quarters: 18-16, 50-30, 62-58, 90-83.

2014 PBA Budweiser Classified Tournament Winners

PHOTOS BY ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Gigi Zapanta, left, poses with her Class C championship trophy and prizes during the awards ceremony for the 2014 PBA Budweiser Classified Tournament last Saturday at the Saipan Bowling Center. PBA official Ador Dimaano handed out the prizes.



Class B champion Roger De Guzman poses for a photo.



Marie Candado poses with her runner-up prize in Class C.



Class A champion Raul Dumapit, left, poses with his prizes.



Class B runner-up Arnel Ibarreta is all smiles after receiving his prizes.



Lala Taitano gets her fourth place cash prize.



Tom Bernardo is all smiles after getting his third place prizes.



Class A runner-up Robert Talavera, left, receives his prizes from PBA official Ador Dimaano.



Class A third finisher Rusty Musca, left, poses with PBA official Ador Dimaano.



Class A co-fifth placers Raphael Zapanta, left, and Percy Omechelang, center, pose for a photo after getting their prizes.



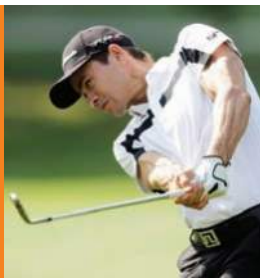
Cuddyer hits for cycle as Rockies sweep Reds

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Tricky 18th hole helps Villegas win Wyndham

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

28 TUESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2014

Solid start for CNMI jr. players

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI junior tennis players were on the right track at the start of the 2014 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Fiji yesterday.

The 11-player CNMI Junior Tennis Team won seven of their opening day matches with boys U12 players Robbie Schorr and Ken Song leading the squad's strong showing in Day 1. The 12-year-old Schorr was in Group



B of the boys U12 singles and swept Tonga's Sigi Palelei, 6-1, 6-3. Ken Song took the long route to his debut victory in Group A, slipping past another Tongan player, Tuapasi Afemui, in three sets. Song dropped the opener, 3-6, but came out smoking in the second, 6-0, and also dominated the tiebreaker, 10-1, to join Schorr in the win column. The boys U12 division is divided into three pools with four players in each group and they will play in the round-robin elimination to determine the playoff qualifiers. Song and Schorr's will continue their quest in the round-robin play today when they face Tahiti's Gillian Osmont and Kiribati's Banien Ioera, respectively.



Still in the U12 age group, girls division, the third-ranked Malika Miyawaki and fourth-seeded Conatsu Kaga are both in Group C and also won their opening matches in contrasting fashions. Malikawa shut down Samoa's Leafine Cronin, 6-0, 6-0, while Kaga sweated out a three-set victory over Vanuatu's Rosalie Molballeh. Kaga fell in the first set, 3-6, but forced a rubbermatch with a tough 7-5 win in the second set and hung in there to complete the come-from-behind win with an 11-9 triumph in the last set. The CNMI's third entry in the girls U12 singles—Asia Raulerson—lost her debut match in Group A, bowing to the fifth-ranked Eleanor Schuster of Samoa, 1-6, 0-6.

Raulerson hopes to bounce back today when she duels Vanuatu's Marion Hymak, while Kaga and Miyawaki collide in Day 2.

In the girls U14, the CNMI's bet and No. 1 pick Carol Lee cruised to victory after blanking fellow Commonwealth player Ami Tsukagoshi, 6, 0, 6-0, in a Group A match. The CNMI have two other entries in the girls U14 single with Tania Tan and Julia Ishikawa having mixed fortunes in their opening games. The fourth-seeded Tan was paired

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Conatsu Kaga, seen here in action in a local tournament in 2013 at the American Memorial Park, won her first match in the 2014 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships in Fiji yesterday.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Ghasias Brothers gains first win



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Ghasias Brothers' Randy Pelisamen, right, is hemmed in by Hite Beer's Art Montes during the third quarter of their game in the DLX caging last Friday at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



The Ghasias Brothers weathered a third-quarter storm from Hite Beer to pull off a 90-83 win in the lone game completed in the 2014 DLX Invitational Basketball League last Friday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

The Ghasias Brothers squandered its 20-point halftime lead before finishing strong in the last two minutes of the match to barge into the win column after a 0-3 start. Hite Beer absorbed its second loss in four games.

Ben Pelisamen drained four triples in the second period, while Freddie started the quarter with eight straight points before adding two more, as the Ghasias Brothers ended the half with a big 50-30 advantage.

However, the Ghasias Brothers lost the double-digit spread and even fell behind by two in the closing minutes of the third, 56-58, as Hite Beer mounted a comeback at the be-

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The seven players from Guam National Badminton Federation pose for a photo during a break in the 2014 NMBA-GNBF Friendly Competition last Saturday at the TSL Sports Complex.

Guam badminton group to take cue from NMBA

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Guam National Badminton Federation was impressed with the big number of players under the wing of Northern Marianas Badminton Association



in the next few years.

"It was amazing to see a lot of play-

ers packed in a gym," GNBF general secretary Sunardi Li said in an interview with *Saipan Tribune* last Friday during the opening of the 2014 NMBA-GNBF Friendly Competition at the TSL Sports Complex.

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